Scott SCENE

Vol. 28, No. 5

The mission of Scott County is to advance safe, healthy, and livable communities through citizen-focused services.

October/November 2016

Scott County Farm Family of the Year

The Ted and Mary Kordner family of St. Lawrence Township received this year's honor.

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Conservation leader

John Hickey of Prior Lake was named Scott County's SWCD award recipient for 2016.

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Help plan County's future

Visit with staff, take survey

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The Scott County Drug Court Committee includes (front row, left to right) Michele Barley, Shannon Meyer, Betsie Niebes, Tim Cleveland, (middle row, l. to r.) Evan Cole, Sandy Mader, Judge Christian Wilton, Judge Caroline "Carrie" Lennon, Prior Lake Police Chief Mark Elliott, Michael Budka, (back row, l. to r.) County Attorney Ron Hocevar, Keri Lorenz, Terry Raddatz, Steve Brown, and Vicki Carlson.

New Drug Court addresses problems of offenders with addictions, mental illness

The suspect* was a known drug user. He had been caught stealing -- again -- to pay for his drug habit. It was his second offense. The first time he had broken into a car, and this time he had burglarized a home.

Both had been property crimes: No assaults; no weapons.

After a team from the County Attorney's office reviewed his case, it was decided he would be offered an opportunity to enter into the new alternative justice system in Scott County called Drug Court.

The choice was his. Either he could go through the traditional process, enter his plea, build his defense, and likely serve a jail sentence, or he could choose to enter a system where he would be required to go into chemical dependency treatment, followed by weekly drug testing for two years. He'd have to undergo a mental health evaluation, followed by recommended treatment, if needed. He would be required to complete a cognitive behavioral program to help him make better decisions and teach him new problem solving skills. Restitution could also be required. He would need to return to court every two weeks during the first phase of the program to report on his progress in treatment and any other court-ordered conditions.

In return, he might not serve jail time *unless* he violated his probation conditions, and he would receive assistance in securing a job, housing, health care, and transportation as needed. If he completed the entire program, the charges against him would be dismissed.

"I don't want to drag anyone into this program kicking and screaming," said First Judicial District Court Judge Christian Wilton, one of two judges housed in Scott County who is working with the drug court that began operation Oct. 1. "This is an intense program. They need to be serious about it and want to participate. They could have officers knock on their door at 2 a.m. to check up on them and do a drug test."

Members of the Scott County Drug Court Steering Committee who worked to develop the drug court and will be involved in its operation all believe it will reduce drug use, the use of jail/prison, recidivism rates, overall costs, collateral damage against families and communities, and overdose deaths -- all outcomes that have been achieved in similar

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Library programs focus on early literacy

Listening to music and stories, dancing, and following directions are some of the activities designed to teach early literacy skills at the Scott County Public Libraries.

The libraries launched a series of free storyhours and early literacy classes this fall to attract future readers and their parents. Some classes are specifically designed for babies, toddlers, or preschoolers and their caregivers; others are planned for families with children of all ages.

Storytimes led by library staff trained in the Every Child Ready to Read curriculum are now called "classes" -- still all the fun and learning of storytime, but the term "classes" more accurately reflects the learning and teaching that happens.

Children of all ages and their parents/caregivers are welcome at the story and play-based early literacy classes that use the five pre-reading practices of "Talking, Singing, Reading, Writing & Playing."

For class times and more information, visit www.scottlib.org and click on "Calendar" or visit a local library.

Youngsters used scarves as they danced and followed directions during a recent family early literacy program at the Prior Lake Library.

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Top of the SCENE

By Gary Shelton
Scott County Administrator

We're "punching above our weight"

Recently I attended an event where a commissioner from a neighboring metro county made a reference to "punching above our weight." What he was referring to was Scott County's tendency to become involved and succeed in efforts and activities that should require more power, influence, and money than we seem to have. The commissioner made this statement as a reflection of economic growth and activity within Scott County.

Over the past few years, we have seen hundreds of millions of dollars in investments across the County and the creation of thousands of new jobs. As I noted in a previous *SCENE* article, over the past year, Scott County has seen private sector job growth of nearly 4.5 percent, coupled with steadily increasing average weekly wages. Furthermore, the County has one of the highest (and growing) workforce participation rates in the state, and that is underscored by the lowest unemployment rate in the metro and surrounding area. Scott County has the highest median household income, the third lowest poverty rate, the third highest rate of home ownership, and crime in the County is well below the national averages for similarly sized communities in every category. Scott County is a great place to live; our people and businesses are thriving. And it's true: If you look at economic activity, Scott County has certainly been punching above our weight. However, I believe this phrase is appropriate in virtually every area.

When you consider transportation, we have clearly excelled. In less than a decade, we have seen the opening of the Southbridge Crossings, Eagle Creek, and Marschall Road transit stations. The merging of Scott and Carver County's dial-a-ride and medical access transit services and the merger of the BlueXpress with MVTA has significantly increased the availability of transit within the county. The completion of interchanges at 101 and 13, 169 and 494, 13 and Dakota County Road 5, 169 and County Road 69, the new (four lanes and elevated) 101 bridge, the interchange at 17 and 42 combined with the expansions of 17 – and the pending interchange at U.S. Highway 169 and Trunk Highway 41 – have likewise significantly improved mobility and safety.

But our successes have not simply been in the areas of economic development and transportation. Our investments and improvements in other infrastructure have been just as impressive. Scott County has the most expansive fiber network of any county in the State. Our shared communication, information technology, and infrastructure are unsurpassed by any in the country. Even in the hangover from the Great Recession, we have built and expanded library services, opened new regional parks, expanded services in others, and developed the most comprehensive and effective public safety training facility in the metro area. Fiscally, the County is now one of only nine counties in the state with a triple A bond rating (the highest rating achievable), and the County has a relatively low and declining property tax rate.

Currently, Scott County has the eighth lowest property tax per capita in the state; within the metro area, only Dakota and Washington counties have a lower county property tax on a $200,000 home. And if surveys are given relevance, the 2016 citizens survey would indicate that residents are feeling the effects -- respondents rated Scott County for the overall quality of life higher than ratings given by residents in other counties across the nation.

By any measure, Scott County is clearly punching above our weight, but the question that should be answered is… *why?* From my perspective, the answer is a relatively simple acronym – SCALE – the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency. To the envy of many, Scott County, its cities, its townships, and its tribal government do considerably better than others at the art of working together. Henry Ford said: "Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success." Scott County is the embodiment of this statement. Certainly there are times when we disagree, when we find ourselves promoting opposing agendas, or when we simply cannot work through some issue. However, SCALE has made it possible for all of our governmental entities to work together to strengthen each other and our communities.

SCALE provides a solid avenue to allow all of us to grow and learn together to understand and meet the needs of today and tomorrow effectively, efficiently, and collaboratively. SCALE has also provided the method for members to share resources and understand the nuances of varying methods of delivering services. SCALE has proven to be invaluable in fostering the building of relationships based on cooperation, trust, and open communication, all which allow us to work better together. Through this unique organization, we have been able to focus on finding solutions, not finding fault. At its core, SCALE has magnified our ability to affect positive change within our communities and this region.

What's required for a voluntary association like SCALE to succeed? Simply stated, the leaders from each of the respective member entities have to put aside self-interest and engage in dialogue with people from different perspectives. Their goal has to be to develop strategies benefiting all constituencies for the long term. Many have tried to emulate SCALE with differing levels of success, but none have seen the magnitude of the impact we have seen. And there is but one fundamental reason: The elected officials within this County, at every level, have made working together to serve the best interests of the public a priority. This type of genuine leadership is all too often missing in today's politics. My hope is that, eventually, others will come to understand that Ford was correct as coming together is easy, but only a beginning. Keeping together is more difficult, but eventually will show progress. Working together requires genuine leadership, but also leads to success.

Editorial Policy

The purpose of this publication is to provide the public with information about Scott County Government and the opportunities it offers its citizens. If you have questions or suggestions, contact Lisa Kohner, Public Affairs Coordinator, at (952) 496-8780 or lkohner@co.scott.mn.us or Claire Robling, Communications and Legislative Coordinator, at (952) 496-8597 or crobling@co.scott.mn.us.

Commissioners' Corner

County Board Meetings through December 2016

October 11	–	*no meeting*
October 18	–	County Board meeting
October 25	–	*no meeting*
November 1	–	Community Health Board meeting; County Board meeting
November 8	–	*no meeting*
November 15	–	County Board meeting
November 22	–	*no meeting*
November 29	–	County Board planning workshop
December 1	--	Joint meeting with Three Rivers Park Board (12 noon)
December 6	–	County Board meeting
December 6	--	Truth in Taxation meeting (6 p.m.)
December 13	–	*no meeting*
December 20	–	County Board meeting
December 27	--	*no meeting*

The Scott County Board meets at 9 a.m. on Tuesdays (except if indicated above) at the Government Center in Shakopee. Visit the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov to view streaming video of Board meetings, Board agendas, and minutes of previous meetings. The Board proceedings may also be rebroadcast on your local government access cable channels; refer to your weekly newspapers for broadcast dates and times. For further information about County Board meetings, contact the County Administration office at (952) 496-8100.

Citizen Committee Vacancies

The Scott County Board of Commissioners is looking for interested citizens to serve on the following advisory committees. Members of advisory committees are provided with a per diem and mileage reimbursement for attendance at meetings. If you have any questions or are interested in serving on one of these committees, contact Deb Brazil at dbrazil@co.scott.mn.us or at (952) 496-8601. For more information regarding a specific committee, visit the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov; click on "Your County Government," then "Boards, Commissions, and Committees." *Please note that some of the vacancies have incumbents who are eligible to be reappointed for another term.*

All Hazards Committee (1 vacancy). Currently, there is one at-large vacancy on this committee. The All Hazards Committee was formed after the events of September 11, 2001 in order to bring various agencies and organizations throughout Scott County together to discuss and plan for all types of emergency and/or disaster incidents. The identified goals of the committee are that all stakeholders will understand the roles, responsibilities, limitations, and capabilities of each and all response agencies allowing them to assist with emergency preparedness risk assessments, preparedness planning activities, disaster response after-action reporting, and proposal of training and exercises. The Committee meets quarterly on the third Tuesday of the month from 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Board of Adjustment and Planning Advisory Commission (7 vacancies). Currently, there are seven vacancies, one in each Commissioner District and two at-large vacancies. The purpose of the Planning Advisory Commission is to hold public hearings on amendments to the Comprehensive Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance Amendments; review all applications for conditional use permits, interim use permits, and plans for subdivision of land; and to make recommendations for approval or denial to the County Board for the unincorporated area of the County (all eleven townships). The Board of Adjustment holds public hearings and makes decisions on variance requests. These Boards meet the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Community Corrections Advisory Board (3 vacancies). There are currently three vacancies on this Board, one each in Commissioner Districts 1, 2, and 3. This Board is responsible for making recommendations to the Scott County Board of Commissioners as they relate to community corrections. The Board is comprised of law enforcement staff, corrections staff, judges, attorneys, social services personnel, educators, and citizens. There are five citizen members, one from each Commissioner District. Advisory Board members are appointed to serve two-year terms, and are eligible to serve three terms. Persons of color and from various ethnic groups are particularly encouraged to apply. This Board meets every other month on the fourth Thursday at 7:30 a.m.

Community Development Agency (CDA) (1 vacancy). Currently, there is a vacancy on this Board in Commissioner District 4. The mission of the CDA is to strengthen the communities of Scott County by providing affordable housing opportunities to low and moderate income families, promoting economic development, and fostering coordination of public and private resources. The CDA meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m.

Extension Committee (1 vacancy). Currently, there is one vacancy in Commissioner District 1. In partnership with the University of Minnesota, the Extension Committee assists in formulating programs, establishing budgets, and selecting and evaluating professional staff to improve the quality of life and to enhance the economy and environment through education, applied research, and the resources of the University of Minnesota. The Committee meets four times per year (Wednesday evenings, 5:15 p.m.).

Human Services Resource Council (8 vacancies). The Resource Council consists of three representatives from each Commissioner District. Currently, there are eight vacancies on the council, with vacancies in all the Commissioner Districts. Members serve two-year terms, and are eligible to serve three terms. The Resource Council participates in development of the Strategic Plan for Health and Human Services; makes recommendations concerning the annual budget of Health and Human Services; makes recommendations related to human services programs, needs, priorities, goals, and objectives to the County Board; and receives, reviews, and comments on special interest group and community at-large input regarding Human Services plans, programs, services, and performance. Professional providers and consumers of Human Services programs are particularly encouraged to apply. The committee meets quarterly, on the third Monday at 6 p.m.

Library Board of Advisors (2 vacancies). There are currently two vacancies on this Board,

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Second half property taxes due October 17

Second half property taxes are due October 17, 2016 and the following options will be available for payment of taxes:

You may pay in person at Customer Service during the following hours:

- Shakopee Government Center -- Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Thursdays: 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.
- Elko New Market Service Center (located in the Elko New Market Library) -- Mondays and Wednesdays: 1 p.m. to 8 p.m. (closed for lunch 3:30-4:30); Tuesdays and Fridays: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. (closed for lunch 1-2); Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

You may mail taxes. If mailed they must be postmarked on or before October 17.

Tax payment drop boxes are located:

- Inside the Government Center in front of Customer Service and near the front receptionist desk during business hours.
- At all Scott County Libraries from October 10 through October 17 – please check your area library for their hours of operation.
- In Parking Lot B on the north side of the Government Center (near the postal mailbox located at the front entrance) through October 15.
- Curbside drop off will be available on Monday, October 17 from 8 am to 4:30 pm in parking Lot B on north side of Government Center.

You can now **pay your taxes online!** Go to www.co.scottcountymn.gov and select:

There are convenience fees charged by the processor that depend on how you choose to pay:

a) E-check = $1.50 per transaction
b) Debit Cards = $3.50 per transaction
c) Credit Cards = 2.3% per transaction

SmartLink
YOUR LEADER IN MOBILITY MANAGEMENT

Go-To cards available for riders

SmartLink is now a retailer of the regional fare system called Go-To cards! This is a stored value card that you can now pick up at two locations in Scott County: The Marschall Road Transit Station (1615 Weston Court, Shakopee), and the Customer Service area at the Scott County Government Center (200 4th Ave. West, Shakopee). At these locations, you can pick up a Go-To card and load it with amounts up $400 for use on public transit throughout the seven-county metro Area. Cash, checks, or credit cards are accepted as payment.

There are instructions available on how to register your card to personalize it, check your card balance, add value in a variety of ways, and use your card in the region. SmartLink and Customer Service can also add value to your stored ride and multi-day passes contained on the card. These fare media systems are a service of the Metropolitan Council; for more information you can go www.metrotransit.org or call (612) 373-3333.

Mobility management

SmartLink is continuing to make progress in the area of Mobility Management. Our Travel Trainer is meeting with organizations and senior centers to update all residents on transportation options in their communities. Please call (952) 496-8341 (option 2) to have our Travel Trainer come out and talk to your organization.

Coordinating resources, call for volunteers

SmartLink is gathering all of the transportation resources for Scott and Carver County along with all the gaps and needs from the counties in an effort to use current resources in a coordinated manner and increase availability of transportation for all residents. Smart-Link's coordinated effort has already provided some solutions to transportation that were not available before. We're happy to report that we have a number of new volunteer drivers in place as of the last few months. This is excellent, but in order for us to help additional people to retain their independence, we're still looking for more. So please, if you have any time available to become a volunteer and help your neighbors get where they need to go, give us a call at (952) 496-8341 (press 2) to get more information on the volunteer driver program.

More information on SmartLink Transit and the Dial-A-Ride, Medical Assistance, and Volunteer Driver services it offers is available on the county website at www.scottcountymn.gov/516/SmartLink-Transit or www.scottcountymn.gov under "Public Transportation."

Be prepared to vote in upcoming election

If you haven't already noticed, this is a big election year – and we're hoping for 100 percent voter turnout in Scott County! **Are you registered to vote?**

Election Day is November 8, 2016.

To be preregistered to vote in the November 8, 2016 General Election, your voter registration must be received by Oct. 18, 2016. Current registered voters do not need to register again unless you have moved, changed your name, or have not voted at least once within the last four years.

Register online… it's quick and easy!

Just go to the Minnesota Secretary of State's website at www.mnvotes.org.

Voter Registration Applications are also available at the Scott County Government Center and on the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov.

Voting by Absentee Ballot…

Minnesota voters no longer need

an excuse to vote by absentee ballot. You can apply for an Absentee Ballot online at www.mnvotes.org. Absentee Ballot Applications are also available on the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov or by calling Scott County Elections at (952) 496-8560.

In-person absentee voting for the Nov. 8, 2016 State General Election will take place at the Scott County Government Center, 200 4th Ave. West in Shakopee during regular business hours from **Sept. 23, 2016 through Nov. 7, 2016.** The Scott County Government Center will also be open for absentee voting on Saturday, November 5, 2016 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Commissioners' Corner

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one each in Commissioner Districts 4 and 5. The Library Board of Advisors consists of one representative from each Commissioner District. Members serve three-year terms, and are eligible to serve three consecutive terms. The Board participates in the formation of the Library Strategic Plan that is used to focus limited resources on library services that meet the needs of our customers; evaluates current and future services; and guides the creation of a budget that reflects identified customer needs. The Board recommends operating policies for the public library system and, by statute, is responsible for the content of the library collection. The Board currently meets on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. Each year, one meeting is held in each of the seven branch libraries and the Scott County Law Library and four meetings are held at Library Administration (Shakopee).

Mental Health Local Advisory Council (4 vacancies). Currently, there are four at-large vacancies on this Council. Anyone with an interest in mental health services may apply. Consumers or family members of consumers of mental health services, adults who received mental health services as children or adolescents, and representatives of Scott County's minority population are particularly encouraged to apply. The Council meets every other month on the fourth Tuesday at 4 p.m.

Parks Advisory Commission (7 vacancies). Currently, there are seven vacancies on this Committee, one in each Commissioner District and two at-large positions. The purpose of the Parks Advisory Commission is to provide leadership and direction to staff and elected officials in the area of parks, trails, and open space planning and implementation. Members advise the County Board on program priorities and policies; planning for parks, trails, and open space; and review and recommend proposed annual work plans. Commission members represent the citizens of Scott County and, as such, serve as community ambassadors. The Parks Advisory Commission typically meets the first Wednesday of each month at 6 p.m.

Personnel Board of Appeals (1 vacancy). Currently, there is one at-large vacancy on this Board. The Personnel Board of Appeals is responsible for making findings and reporting to the County Board upon the filing of an appeal by an applicant, employee, or appointing authority under certain circumstances. There are three at-large citizen representatives on this Board. Members are appointed for three-year terms, and there are no term limits. The Board meets as needed.

Scott Watershed Management Organization (WMO) Planning Commission (3 vacancies). Currently, there are vacancies representing the Southwest Watershed and the Credit River Watershed, as well as one at-large position. The Scott WMO Watershed Planning Commission reviews and makes recommendations on the Comprehensive Water Resource Management Plan, budgets, and program priorities; the implementation of the Comprehensive Water Resource Management Plan; and associated program goals and projects. The commission consists of seven members representing specific watershed areas. This Board meets on the fourth Monday of each month at 4 p.m.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee (SWAC) (1 vacancy). Currently, there is one at-large vacancy on this Committee. The purpose of this committee is to advise the Scott County Board of Commissioners on matters concerning solid waste management and to provide a forum for local governments, citizens, and the waste industries to provide input into the planning and implementation of solid waste programs within Scott County. Members serve three-year terms.

Vermillion River Watershed Joint Powers Organization (1 vacancy). This nine-member committee advises the Joint Powers Board regarding its duties under the Joint Powers Agreement, including the responsibility to guide the implementation of the watershed management plan, annual work plan, and budget; and recommend action regarding disputes pursuant to the JPA. The WPC meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 4 - 6 p.m. at the Dakota County Western Service Center in Apple Valley. To be considered for appointment, you must live in the Scott County portion of the Vermillion River Watershed.

Commissioner Districts:

- **District 1:** The Cities of Belle Plaine, Jordan (precincts 1 and 2), New Prague (precinct 2), and Shakopee (precinct 5); and Belle Plaine, Blakeley, Helena, Jackson, Louisville, St. Lawrence, and Sand Creek Townships.
- **District 2:** The Cities of Elko New Market and Prior Lake (precincts 2 and 3); and Cedar Lake, Credit River, New Market, and Spring Lake Townships.
- **District 3:** The City of Shakopee, precincts 1-4, 6-8, 12A, and 12B.
- **District 4:** The Cities of Prior Lake (precincts 1, 4, 5, 6A, 6B, and 7) and Shakopee (precincts 9, 10, 11 and 13).
- **District 5:** The City of Savage.

Environmental SCENE

By Greg Boe
Senior Environmental Health Specialist

The bumps in the road seem smaller when we help each other

I still remember the first time I met Bonnie (not her real name), even though it happened several years ago. It was a Wednesday afternoon in September, and we were winding down toward the end of another busy day at the Scott County Household Hazardous Waste Facility. The bell sounded, indicating that a vehicle had pulled into our driveway, so I grabbed a cart and headed out to greet our new arrival. As I walked out toward her vehicle, she closed the door of her pickup truck and walked toward me. One of the things I will always remember about that first meeting is her eyes. She had pretty eyes, but she looked very tired, as though she had not slept well or perhaps she had been working very hard. And I also noticed that she seemed sad, looking as though she had been crying. I greeted her warmly, welcoming her to the HHW Facility and asking how I could help her. She was quiet for a moment, as though she was searching for the right words to say.

After a moment she spoke, saying, "I have some things that I need to get rid of" -- and she gestured toward the back of her truck. As I looked in the direction of her gesture, I saw the load that she had brought. The back of her pickup truck was completely full, from front to back, and heaped several feet above the top of the sides of the box. She was quiet for a moment, once again, before she softly spoke. "My husband passed away six months ago, and I'm trying to start the process of cleaning up all of the stuff that he left behind." After taking a deep breath, she wiped her eyes and continued, "I just don't know where to begin." I took a step toward the large collection of materials heaped in the back of her truck and said reassuringly, "Let's take a look and see what we can do."

A closer examination of her load revealed a wide variety of materials, many of which we were able to take, and some of which we were not. Her load contained a wide variety of chemicals, including paints, pesticides, and cleaning chemicals. Those we were able to take and manage properly. In addition, she had a large number of metal items which could be recycled. However, she also had a fairly large amount of materials that we would considered to be solid waste, or "garbage," and, as such, would be directed to a landfill. Fortunately there was still a fair amount of time available before we would close that afternoon, and we did not have a big line of people waiting for service that day. Therefore I was able to spend some time with Bonnie, sorting through the load with her, taking the items that we could for proper management, and advising her on how to handle the rest of her items. She seemed to appreciate the time spent helping her understand the process, and the many options available to her here in Scott County. By the time she left that afternoon with a nearly empty pickup truck, she seemed a little less overwhelmed.

Over the course of the next few months, as fall transitioned into winter, I saw Bonnie several more times as she continued to thin her belongings. Each time she came in, she brought a large load of items. However, she seemed a little more confident and cheerful with each load. She talked openly, sharing some of her memories of a happy life with her long-time husband, and also asking questions about the various wastes (what we do with them once we take them, where she could take the items we don't take, why we don't take them, et cetera). She seemed to have a little more spring in her step as the winter progressed. We still had to spend several minutes sorting those loads (as many of the items required different processing techniques on our end), but she became better and better at sorting each batch herself, so that we ended up being able to take most all of the items she would bring to us.

Then, in the middle of winter, I became aware of the fact that I had not seen Bonnie for some time. I was a little worried, as happens with some of our "regulars" that I get to know over time. However, a few weeks, later I saw Bonnie pull into the HHW driveway once again. This time she pulled up, parked, and practically jumped out of her pickup. She had an ear-to-ear smile that virtually lit up the room. She was beaming as she said: "Greg, this my last load!!"

We talked for a moment as we unpacked that last truckload of material, and she shared with me her relief of being done with the whole process of thinning those belongings. She also talked about being paralyzed with fear and intimidation, and not knowing how to begin to attack the pile of stuff that filled her home and garage. I smiled as she thanked me for my help, telling me that my patience and encouragement over the winter had given her the courage to keep moving forward over those dark and daunting winter months. It was a very satisfying experience to be there, able to offer a helping hand when someone needed assistance. The difference in her demeanor over those months was very noticeable as she gained control of her situation, and began to feel more comfortable and confident. It was a pleasure to be a part of that transition. I am glad I was able to help.

I hope that someday we can all have the opportunity to be there when a neighbor or a friend needs a hand. Or perhaps even a stranger. We all will encounter bumps in the road as we move along through life. However, a smile, a helping hand, a moment of patience, or even a kind word can help to make those bumps in the road seem just a little less overwhelming.

Meanwhile, should you find yourself needing any advice or assistance with the potentially daunting task of starting to clean out your garage, storage shed, and/or house, please remember the Scott County Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) program. You can visit us via our website (www.scottcountymn.gov/HHW), or in person (once we reopen from our current expansion project, which will keep us closed through the first of the year). After taking that first step, you will likely find that the journey was not nearly as difficult as you thought it might be. And, rest assured, the Scott County HHW program is here to help you with that journey!

Reminder: The Household Hazardous Waste Facility is undergoing an expansion project and will not reopen until late January.

Residents invited to take survey for 2040 Plan

Every 10 years, Scott County prepares a comprehensive plan that helps guide policies and decisions for public services looking 20 years into the future. Scott County's 2040 Comprehensive Plan will focus on many issues that may affect your daily life.

To gain community input, the County would like to hear thoughts from residents about seven different topic areas: active living, careers, early childhood, healthy eating, housing, parks, and transportation. You may see County staff out this fall at many of the public events at a pop-up engagement session. While we'd love to hear from each and every one of you, we realize that isn't possible. If we don't find you at one of these events, please let us know your thoughts on our online survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SC2040.

Active living: Communities are stronger when we are healthy. How can the County support a healthy and active lifestyle?

Career: For many in the County, finding stable employment that pays well is necessary to a good quality of life. What can the County do to connect people with training opportunities and enter into a satisfying career?

Early childhood: By 2040, children of today will be the backbone of our economy. Are there ways that we can make sure they are prepared to succeed?

Healthy eating: Communities around the country are trying to figure out how to help people eat healthy foods. How can Scott County be a leader in this effort?

Housing: Scott County is a great place to live, but there are not many housing opportunities for lower income residents. How can we make housing accessible to all?

Parks: Regional, natural resource-based parks are great ways to enjoy nature, experience active living, and contribute to a well-balanced lifestyle. What can we do to bring people from all walks of life to our parks?

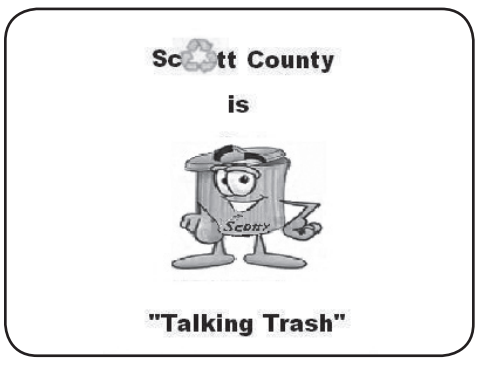
Transportation: County highways comprise many of the roads and highways you travel as you move about the community. How can we make these trips within the County easier and safer?

Businesses enhance rate of recycling in County

In 1989, the Legislature adopted comprehensive legislation based on the recommendations of the Governor's *Select Committee on Recycling and the Environment* (SCORE). This set of laws initiated state funding for programs on recycling, as well as waste reduction and the improved management of household hazardous wastes and problem materials. The legislation provided the basis for programs that are long-term and flexible within the scope of waste reduction, recycling, and problem materials management.

In early January of each year, the Scott County Environmental Health Department contacts local businesses to determine how much they recycled during the previous year. A form is sent out that asks for recycling information, which includes paper products (such as cardboard and office paper) and other recyclables such as metals, glass, and plastics. For some businesses, it also may include used oil and oil filters, fluorescent lamps, automobile batteries, electronic equipment (e-waste), and appliances. There is no obligation for these businesses to submit any information, but the data are valuable to calculate the recycling rate for Scott County.

This information provided by businesses becomes part of an annual SCORE report the County submits to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA). The state provides funding to counties from dedicated solid waste tax revenue that provides a stable funding source for recycling and waste reduction programs. Funding from the SCORE program can be used for a wide range of activities at the local level, including recycling, efforts to reduce waste (source reduction), operate a household hazardous waste (HHW) facility, and educational programs. Each county uses various tools that they feel are appropriate for their population and for the challenges of the local waste stream.



In 2015, the total amount of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) collected in Scott County was 142,105.72 tons. The amount of material recycled was 87,620.38 tons, which calculates to approximately 61.7 percent being recycled.

So because of the recycling by area businesses, everyone in Scott County benefits from funding that is used to further educate the public on solid waste issues. Scott County Environmental Health would like to acknowledge all the following businesses that submitted data on what they recycled beyond what is normally recycled from residential collections in 2015. Thank you for your efforts!

B.F. Nelson Corp.
Canterbury Park
Chart Industries
Fremont Industries, Inc.
Imagine! Print Solutions
Miratech Prior Lake
Riverfront Printing
Rosemont, Inc.
Silgan Containers Corp.
Toro Company
Ziegler, Inc.

If your business would like to submit information about your recycling activities, please contact Steve Steuber in the Environmental Services Department at (952) 496-8473 or at ssteuber@co.scott.mn.us.

Loans, free advice available through *Open to Business*

Looking for a trusted advisor for your business? Maybe you've wanted to secure financing to start or expand your business. If so, the *Open to Business* program offered by Scott County may be just what you're looking for.

Thanks to a partnership between Scott County and the Metropolitan Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD), business owners or those looking to start a business can access a *free* business advisor through *Open to Business*.

Free technical assistance

Open to Business will provide prospective and existing entrepreneurs in Scott County with *free* one-on-one counseling with a business advisor. The program provides assistance in the following areas:

- Financial management
- Bookkeeping setup and training
- Loan packaging
- Business plan assistance
- Real estate analysis
- Marketing assistance
- Strategic planning

- Business regulations
- Professional referrals

Small business loan program

Open to Business advisors can also assist entrepreneurs to identify borrowing needs and access financing options. MCCD also provides direct financing and loans in partnership with banks and non-profit lenders.

How it works…

Business Advisor Christin Boecker is available for setting up a one-on-one meeting in Shakopee or another preferred location. For more information, contact Christin at (612) 843-3278 or by email at cboecker@mccdmn.org. For general information, visit www.opentobusiness.org.

Learn options before filing for bankruptcy

Learn what options exist to pursue before making the move to file for bankruptcy. For many individuals, filing for bankruptcy can provide a way out of debt and a fresh financial start. But whether or not a bankruptcy filing is in your best interest depends on many factors and your individual circumstances.

A good first step is to meet with a consumer credit counselor. Non-profit agencies that are certified by the National Foundation for Credit Counselling will provide unbiased financial education and counseling services to help determine the best path for you. To find a NFCC agency near you, visit https://www.nfcc.org/locator/. Use this website to view some things to think about before you decide to file for Chapter 7 or Chapter 13 bankruptcy: http://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/considering-bankruptcy.html.

Although most of bankruptcy is governed by federal law, some aspects of bankruptcy are controlled by state law. Visit here to understand the rules and regulations that apply to Minnesota bankruptcy law: http://www.nolo.com/legal-encyclopedia/minnesota-bankruptcy-information.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Shawna Faith Thompson, Financial Capability Educator, U of MN Extension at shawnaft@umn.edu or (952) 492-5383.

Secured credit cards can help rebuild your credit

Are you being denied credit while trying to build your credit? If you are having trouble qualifying for credit, consider getting a secured credit card. This is a sure fire way to build credit and get on the road to financial prosperity.

What is a secured credit card?

A secured credit care is one backed by a savings account used as collateral on the credit available with the card. Money is deposited and held in the account backing the card. The limit will be based on both your previous credit history and the amount deposited in the account. The limit as a percent of the deposit tends to range between 50 and 100 percent.

How do you find a secured credit card?

First, check with your bank or credit union to find out if the institution offers a secured credit card. If they do, inquire about the terms of the card. Things like interest, which credit bureaus it reports to, how often it is reported to the credit bureaus, and fee schedules are important questions to ask. If your bank or credit union doesn't offer a secured credit card, you can search for one at www.bankrate.com.

You will need to have a chunk of money saved to deposit as the collateral for the card. This is normally $200 and higher.

How can you be successful with a secured credit card?

Think of building credit with a secured credit card as a game, and the rules of the game include:

- Never carrying a balance month to month
- Paying it on time or early by setting up auto payment from your checking or savings account
- Not charging anything over 30 percent of the credit limit

When will you see your score increase?

Usually, it will take six months to a year for your score to rise as long as there isn't any new negative information reported.

Then what?

Once your credit score has increased enough, you will be able to qualify for unsecured credit. That is, credit that is not backed by your own investment.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Shawna Faith Thompson, Financial Capability Educator, at shawnaft@umn.edu or (952) 492-5383.

References: *Investopia.com*

Healthy SCENE

By Lisa Brodsky
Public Health Director

Is your business prepared for a disaster?

September was National Preparedness Month -- a great time to review current preparedness plans or develop plans you don't have. We often hear about family and individual preparedness, but businesses also need to devote time to preparing. "Ready Business" at www.ready.gov/business offers five steps in developing a preparedness program for your business. Every size of business needs to be prepared; the steps are scalable depending on the size of your business.

1. **Program Management:** This step includes identifying an administrator and staff for your preparedness program. You will also want to check on internal regulations or policies that will influence your preparedness work.

2. **Planning:** This step includes collecting information about threats that would most likely affect your business and explore ways to mitigate or prevent these hazards. Hazards are not limited to natural disasters, but are anything that could cause employee injury, property damage, or disrupt your routine business activities.

3. **Implementation:** This step includes writing your plans and training all levels of employees so they can understand and execute the preparedness plans. Each business plan will be unique to its needs and threats; the comprehensive plan will be made up of supplemental plans that may include a communication plan, information technology plan, business continuity plan (COOP), or employee support plan.

4. **Testing and Exercises:** This step includes testing and exercising the written plans to determine areas that work well or those that may require additional consideration. It will help clarify roles and responsibilities as staff are trained. It also allows your preparedness programs to work with external partners who may be identified in your plans.

5. **Program Improvement:** This step is often seen as the most important step, allowing you to continually improve your plan. You will work on areas that were identified as in need of additional consideration in the testing and exercise step. Continual review of your plans and incorporation of new preparedness practices help to ensure your business is ready for any threat.

Scott County strives for safe, healthy, and livable communities, and preparing your business is an important piece of this mission. Scott County Public Health Emergency Preparedness can help your business prepare, creating preparedness plans, or offering training to your employees. If you don't know where to start, developing a calling tree for a disaster is a great first step. This will allow for staff to know where information will come from and what their next step should be.

For more information on how you can prepare your business for emergencies, contact Alexa Rundquist at Scott County Public Health at (952) 496-8530 or arundquist@co.scott.mn.us.

Information for this article was obtained from www.ready.gov/business.

Let grass grow over septic systems to help insulate for winter

Now that winter is knocking on our door, there's something you should be thinking about: getting your septic system ready for the winter.

The first thing you should do to prevent your septic system from freezing in the winter is one of the easiest things you can do this fall -- let the grass grow to six inches tall over the entire system. This includes the pipe from the house, the septic tanks, the pipe to your drainfield/mound, and of course, your drainfield/mound itself. If your septic system was installed later in the fall and you're not able to get grass to grow on your septic system, another good insulator is a thick layer of mulch (straw, leaves, hay, et cetera) spread eight to 12 inches deep over the entire septic system.

The second thing you should do is fix any dripping/leaking faucets, fixtures, appliances, and running toilets. A trickle of water can cause ice to build up and eventually freeze a pipe closed, which can happen where the septic pipe leaves the home.

Also keep your system "energized" with regular doses of warm water during the winter… the warmer the better. Spreading out your laundry schedule and doing one load of warmer/hot water a day is a good way of keeping your system energized.

When the cold settles in and snow has fallen, what should you do? Keep all vehicles, animals, and human traffic off the septic system. Take particular care to stay off the area between the house and the septic tanks. These are good rules to follow all winter long as compacted snow and soils cause frost to go deeper and faster. Compacted snow provides much less insulation than undisturbed snow.

If your system does freeze, what should you do? Call a septic professional. Never try and fix a frozen septic system by yourself. If you need help finding one, give the Scott County Environmental Services Department a call at (952) 496-8177 and we will give you a list of septic professionals that can help you.

Legal SCENE

By Ron Hocevar
Scott County Attorney

Sexting, sextortion, cyber bullying can result in criminal charges, emotional disheaval

Sexting. The title alone evokes snickers and funny looks. If you've never heard of sexting, it is the sharing of sexually explicit messages and/or nude photos of yourself or others through cell phones or online. Recent studies have found that among school-aged children, sexting is common – 62 percent of teens and young adults have received a sexually explicit image, and 41 percent have sent one. So even if you don't know about sexting, chances are your child does. And while some teens may understand that it is wrong to send or possess these sexually explicit photos, others do not. And they certainly do not understand or think about the legal and life-long consequences. Sexting may seem like harmless fun, but especially when it involves a photo someone under 18, it's *not.*

In Minnesota, as in every other state, it is unlawful to manufacture, possess, or disseminate a pornographic work involving a minor. A minor is anyone under the age of 18. Nudity is not illegal -- it is protected expression under the First Amendment. But sexting usually involves photographs that show nudity with sexual stimulation or gratification (as defined by various statutes). And that constitutes a "pornographic work" that is illegal. Whether the person in the photograph consents or not is irrelevant. If convicted of this offense, it is not only a felony conviction, but it also requires the person to register as a predatory sex offender.

In addition to legal consequences, there are very practical concerns as well. Cyberbullying and "sextortion" are significant problems. Sextortion involves the recipient of an explicit photo demanding money in exchange for not distributing the photo further. Cyberbullying is bullying over the internet. Both have led to multiple suicides. In one case, a young girl committed suicide after she sent a nude photo to her boyfriend, who then forwarded it to hundreds of teenagers in her school. Other students then continued to forward the image, harassing the girl further.[1] With today's technology, an image can make it around the world in seconds, and is available to anyone with access to the internet. So even photos that do not meet the statutory definition of pornography can have catastrophic consequences.

When a sexting case comes to my office, there are many considerations we must take into account when deciding whether to charge a juvenile with manufacturing, possession, or dissemination of child pornography. When enacting this statute, did the legislature intend to make a 16-year-old boy a sex offender for receiving a sexual picture of his 16-year-old girlfriend that he asked for and she readily agreed to provide? Is that boy the person the legislature had in mind to charge and become a registered sex offender? Should the minor girlfriend be charged with a felony for manufacturing and/or disseminating her own sexually explicit photo? Should the boyfriend be charged with dissemination of child pornography if he forwards the photograph to his friends on the football team? Should the football team be charged with possessing child pornography for a picture they never asked for? What if they save the photo to their phone and to their cloud accounts, or forward it on to their friends? Should these juveniles be held accountable under the same laws as adult child predators? By the black letter of the law, all the individuals in this paragraph could be charged. But should they be?

As prosecutors with the discretion to decide who to charge and what to charge, those are just a few of the questions we have to consider. We try to balance the societal implications of our charging decision with the conduct; we try to avoid charges that are technically proper, but lead to convictions that do not seem to be justified by the severe penalties and consequences – both direct and collateral. Cases of child pornography amongst teens, "sexting" cases, are all different, and each has to be analyzed based on its own unique facts. How old is the victim? Did the victim take the picture? Was the victim aware a picture or recording was being made? Did the victim distribute it? Why was it made? Who all was involved in taking and distributing it? Were drugs or alcohol involved? In the final analysis, child pornography laws are meant to protect children. Whatever charging decision we make as prosecutors has to have that as our ultimate goal.

Because of the extremely serious consequences, our children must be taught the legal and collateral consequences of engaging in sexting with anyone under 18:

- **Everyone involved can end up with a felony conviction** (which, in addition to prison and fines, can also affect future employment, voting rights, the ability to own a firearm, rent an apartment, receive student loans, and so on).
- If convicted, **they are subject to predatory registration requirements** for five to 10 years.

Once an image is sent, they cannot get it back and they no longer have control over who sees that image (and digital images are on the internet forever).

If an image is forwarded on by them, **they are just as responsible** for that image as the original producer and sender.

Teenagers do not necessarily enjoy talking about sexting with adults. But as parents, educators, and law enforcement officials, we have a responsibility to educate our youth about sexting. We need to offer programs that help teens realize the consequences of using – and abusing -- technology. Our programs need to be tailored to both the teen and the parent, as both parties need to be made aware of the repercussions of sexting and Internet abuse. We need to help teens stay safe. Together, we can prepare and equip our teens to make good decisions about what they post and share online.[2]

(Endnotes)

1. Mike Celizic, "Her Teen Committed Suicide Over Sexting"
2. Sexting Teens – A Picture with Consequences. Raychelle Cassada Lohmann MS, LPC Psychology Today

Library News

Library card provides access to arts, culture

By Jake Grussing, Library Director

The most powerful card in your wallet just keeps getting better. Your Scott County Library card now gives you access to free discounted tickets to select museums and theatres throughout the metro area. Bell Museum, Minnesota Orchestra, the Saint Paul Chamber Orchestra, the Stages Theatre Company are just a few of the many partners participaing in the smART pass program.

Just a few weeks ago, my family and I tested the program for ourselves. It is a remarkably easy process. I visited the smARTpass website (www.smartpass.melsa.org), typed in my library card number, and within a few minutes reserved a pair of free admission tickets for the Minnesota Children's Museum. Because there are four people in our house, my wife entered her library card number and reserved another pair of tickets. When we arrived at the museum, staff scanned the tickets that had been emailed to us and we were ready to explore. Our library cards saved us $40 in admissions fees (which we promptly spent on burgers and malts at Mickey's Diner).

Participating partners generously provide free admissions for smARTpass. Instead of being reimbursed for their participation, partners expect smARTpass to expand accessibility to those who might not be able to afford tickets or who simply want to try something out. Best of all, because smARTpass is web-based, you can access the site whenever it works for you -- your access isn't limited by library open hours.

As always. the library wants every part of your experience with our servicees and staff to be exceptional. smARTpass is no different. I hope you take the time to try out this new service and let me know how it worked. I look forward to hearing from you.

Drug Court

From Page 1

programs across the state and country. In addition, it is designed to help addicts become productive, responsible members of their families and community.

"I'm an old school prosecutor," said Scott County Attorney Ron Hocevar, a member of the steering committee. "If a person commits the crime, throw them in jail. But we see that isn't working with the non-violent offenders with mental health and addiction issues that this program targets."

Too often, these types of offenders end up right back in the system.

"We're a Band-Aid on a societal problem," said Mark Elliott, Prior Lake Chief of Police and a steering committee member. "The underlying factors (addictions and mental health) aren't being addressed in the traditional system. If we can get them into a program that addresses those issues, it should lead to far fewer police interactions in the future."

Drug Court is an intensive 14 to 24 month sentencing alternative focusing on treatment of those who commit substance-related crime. The team has been working on its development since January. They've submitted state and federal grant applications and attended national drug court training, completed a participant handbook and program brochure, agreed on target populations and eligibility requirements, and visited the Dakota and Ramsey Adult Drug Court programs. They've also received approval for the new Problem Solving Court in Minnesota through the State Judicial Council. In addition, the Scott County Board has made a three-year commitment of $900,000 from the County's fund balance for the pilot program.

"We believe we've designed a program that will be very effective because it will address multiple issues faced by this group of offenders," said Tim Cleveland, Scott County Director of Community Corrections and a lead member of the Drug Court Steering Committee.

Nationally, 35 to 40 percent of offenders on probation or parole have a substance use disorder, abuse, and/or dependency. Of those with a diagnosed substance use disorder, 21 percent have a co-occurring serious mental health disorder. Many of these offenders also have problems retaining jobs, housing, and relationships.

Drug Court will provide a specialized court docket to provide the support, structure, and accountability addicts in the criminal justice system need to find lasting recovery. Participants will have frequent court hearings, probation contacts, drug testing, curfews, long-term chemical dependency treatment, cognitive skills programming, screening and services for mental health, recovery support group involvement, and referrals for assistance with housing, education, job placement or training and other services as deemed necessary. The program also implements the use of swift and certain sanctions and incentives to promote behavior change. If participants repeatedly fail to comply, they can be dismissed from the program and put into the traditional criminal justice system to face charges.

With current resources, Drug Court is expected to serve about 25 participants a year. The County Board will review the outcomes of the program each year to determine if it will be extended beyond the three year pilot. The Steering Committee hopes to show comparisons between criminals who chose to participate in the program and those who did not in areas such as recidivism rates, whether they continued their education when it was needed, use of public services, job retention, and payment of child support.

Sandy Mader, a chemical dependency case manager for Scott County, said the steering committee is also seeking other partners to help make the program a success, such as businesses in the community who will provide jobs, educational facilities that will help participants continue with their education and training, landlords with rental housing available, and a support network in the community. "We need another major support system around them," she said.

It was clear to everyone involved that something needed to be done. In 2015, there were 399 controlled substance criminal filings in Scott County. This represents an 85 percent increase from the 216 controlled substance criminal filings in 2011.

"Change is hard, but I believe all of us on the steering committee believe that what we are doing now is not working," said Judge Wilton. He added that the new Drug Court will add to the caseloads of many of the people involved. "But never underestimate the value of this on even one person's life. It will affect them, their kids, their kids' kids, and numerous people around them."

**Identifying characteristics have been fictionalized*

News from the Law Library

Voter registration, voting made easy; free legal clinics planned

It seems that all anyone is talking about is the upcoming election. It looks like it is going to be one of the most contentious, volatile elections in a long time. Many people aren't sure when they last voted, if they are registered to vote, or if they need to update their registration. It has never been easier to check your registration status, register to vote, or find out where to vote.

The Scott County Library site at www.scottcountylib.org offers a link to Secretary of State Steve Simon's "Elections and Voting" page. It only takes about two minutes to check your status and/or register to vote. There are only five quick steps to register. You will need a Minnesota driver's license or Minnesota Identification card. If you don't have either of these forms, you can pick up a paper application at the Scott County Government Center or at any of your local libraries. Your local library will return your paper application for you. Links are also available that offer information including Election Day voting, where to vote (maybe your polling place has changed?), voting hours, and tips for first-time voters.

The website also offers other ways to vote. In Minnesota, you can vote early with an absentee ballot starting 46 days before the election. Minnesotans can vote early regardless of whether they will be home on Election Day. You can choose to vote early by mail or in person. You can obtain a 2016 Minnesota Absentee Ballot Application online at www.mnvotes.org. If you have special circumstances, such as you live in a nursing home or assisted living, a treatment center, or are hospitalized, you can request to have an "agent" pick up and deliver your absentee ballot. Your agent must be at least 18 years of age, have a pre-existing relationship with you, and cannot be a candidate for office. An agent cannot be an agent for more than three people.

If you choose to use an agent, you must fill out a *Request for Agent Delivery of Absentee Ballot* and an *Absentee Ballot Application*. Your agent needs to take both forms to the local Elections Office to receive your ballot. Your agent can pick up your ballot as soon as seven days before the election, up until 2 p.m. the day of the election. Your ballot must be returned by 3 p.m. on Election Day. You may choose to return your ballot by mail, but it must be received on or before Election Day. For more information, see www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/other-ways-to-vote/vote-early-by-mail/. It has never been easier to register or to vote!

Free legal clinics returning this fall and winter

Saturday Divorce Clinics

The Law Library is once again offering Saturday morning Divorce Clinics. If you need some help filling out divorce paperwork, this might be the clinic for you.

Are you one of those people that feel you can't afford an attorney, but do not qualify for legal aid? Many self-represented litigants are going to court unprepared and with incomplete or incorrect paperwork. This program might be able to help. The Scott County Law Library is partnering with the Minnesota Justice Foundation and local volunteer attorneys and students from Mitchell Hamline, St. Thomas, and the University of Minnesota Law Schools to offer assistance with filling out divorce paperwork. Participants use the I-Can Divorce Program (similar to Turbo Tax). I-CAN! is a *free* online application that will fill out court forms for you by asking you simple questions. I-CAN! also offers instructions to tell you what to do with your forms and how the court process works.

Participants are asked to fill out a client intake form and preregister for the clinic.

Monday Night Family Law Clinics

Our *free* family law clinics offer the opportunity to talk to a volunteer attorney for 30 minutes regarding general questions about the legal processes of Family Court. Clinics are held on the second Monday of every month (except holidays) from 4 - 6 p.m. Registration is required; please call the Law Library (952) 496-8713 to make an appointment.

The Law Library hosts other legal clinics throughout the year. We also host expungement, unmarried parent, bankruptcy, and senior clinics. We now partner with Southern Minnesota Regional Services (SMRLS) to offer some of their services locally. For more information about any of these clinics or to register, please call (952) 496-8713 or email us at lawlib@scottlib.org.

Sight in guns Oct. 22, 30 at Regional Training Facility

With deer hunting season rapidly approaching, the SCALE Regional Training Facility will provide two opportunities for hunters to sight-in their rifles and shotguns.

The dates are:

Saturday, Oct. 22, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 30, 12 noon – 4 p.m.

The fee to use the facility's range is $15 for 20 minutes of shooting time. Reservations are not required.

The range will be monitored by trained range safety personnel during the public shooting times.

Check the RTF webpage at www.scottcountymn.gov/833/Regional-Public-Safety-Training-Facility for additional info. For questions or more info, contact Mike Briese, Facility Manager, at (952) 496-8948 or via e-mail at mbriese@co.scott.mn.us.

Sight in rifles and shotguns for hunting season at the training facility.

Safety SCENE

By Luke Hennen
Scott County Sheriff

Outpouring of support appreciated as we work to improve our community

In the wake of the tragic deaths of officers in Dallas and Baton Rouge this summer, the outpouring of support for law enforcement in Scott County has been incredible. I've experienced more handshakes, high fives, and thanks from members of the public during this time than I have seen my entire career. In addition to the numerous e-mails, cards, and inspirational artwork that have been sent our way, our office has become a staging ground for cookies, lemonade, and other sugary treats that have been dropped off by day care centers, community groups, and families wishing to show their support. I speak for all of our deputies, corrections officers, and 911 dispatchers when I thank you for the support and willingness to speak up and recognize our work in your community.

Time has passed from these events; it now becomes a time to move forward. Will I ban the cookies? Probably not, but as we all move forward as a community, I ask you to look for other needs. One example of this occurred in August when some residents of the New Prague hosted a Law Enforcement Appreciation event. The event was attend by over 800 people and was an amazing gesture of support. What I found to be more impactful was the result in our community. Hundreds of pounds of food were donated to the local food shelves and over twelve hundred dollars was donated help fund a homelessness project administered by the CAP Agency.

As a community, let's take the creative energy we have built to support law enforcement and apply it to other groups. Imagine the impact of the fundraising, food donations, and the inspirational messages to our residents who are homeless, hungry, or victims of violence.

I also want to speak to the conversation on policing in America in regards to racial tension and accountability of police. The strong support we receive tells me we are doing well in Scott County, but it would be short-sighted for me to assume all is well. As your Sheriff, I understand that community trust is essential to effective policing and I will work hard to build relationships with everyone throughout our diverse community.

Residents of Scott County have a vast array of backgrounds and experiences that have molded their perceptions on policing. We need to come together and talk about these issues and concerns. No one is always right and no one is always wrong; it is the process of listening that will get us to a better understanding of each other's viewpoint and opinions. I strongly believe that having conversations today on these issues will serve our community well into the future. I look forward to hearing from you as we work together to make sure Scott County continues to be a safe place to live, work, and play.

Libraries offer tech classes, author visits, writing series

The air is chilly, the days are shorter, and there is only one more month of election ads to suffer through! May we suggest one of the following activities to help you settle in for winter?

Free technology classes in October!
If you're curious about social media, interested in editing images, or want to try blogging, Scott County Library has the class for you! Choose from these classes that will be offered in October: ***Social Media in a Flash***, Oct. 6, 6 – 8 p.m. at the Prior Lake Library and Oct. 12, 6 – 8 p.m. at the Elko New Market Library; ***How to Start a Personal or Business Blog***, Oct. 11, 6 – 8 p.m. at the New Prague Library; ***Image Editing on the Cheap***, Oct. 11, 6 – 8 p.m. at the Savage Library; and ***Protect Your Privacy***, Oct. 19, 6 – 8 p.m. at the Jordan Library. All classes are *free,* but you must register in advance at your local library or on our website at www.scottlib.org/Events. Pick up a complete schedule at any Scott County Library.

Best-selling author Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni to visit in October. The author of *Mistress of Spices*, *Oleander Girl,* and *Before We Visit the Goddess* will be our featured author for this fall's Club Book presentation on Wednesday, Oct. 12 from 7 – 8 p.m. at the Prior Lake Library. Ms. Divakaruni will discuss her books, which explore various themes of the Indian experience, contemporary America, women, immigration, history, myth, and the joys and challenges of living in a multicultural world. Doors open at 6:15 p.m., and seating is first-come, first served. A book signing will follow the author's presentation.

Inkslingers is coming!
Mark your calendar for the library's *Inkslingers: Writers in the Libraries* annual writing and author series beginning in October. For the writer in you, we are offering the following classes: ***Family Stories into Memoir: Write Your Life,*** Oct. 17, 2 – 3:30 p.m. at the Shakopee Library; ***Kick Off your NaNoWriMo Project: TEENS***, Oct. 22, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Jordan Library; ***Kick Off Your NaNoWriMo Project***, Oct. 23, 2 - 3:30 p.m. at the Savage Library; and ***Your Journal is a Creative Goldmine***, Nov. 3, 6:30 – 8 p.m. at the New Prague Library. All classes are *free, but* require advanced registration. Register at your local Scott County library or visit our website.

We have also invited two Minnesota authors to discuss their books and their writing. **Eric Dregni**, the author of *Vikings in the Attic*, and most recently, *Let's Go Fishing!* will speak on Oct. 27, 6:30 – 8 p.m. at the Shakopee Library. **Julie Klassen**, author of the award-winning *The Secret of Pembrooke Park*, will speak on Nov. 17, 6:30 – 8 p.m. at the Belle Plaine Library. Both authors have new books, and we will have them available for sale and for the author to sign at each event.

For more information about these and other Scott County Library classes, programs, and events, visit our website at www.scottlib.org/Events.

John Hickey named SWCD Conservation Leader of Year

Every year, the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) chooses someone they have been working with that exemplifies conservation. This year's Scott County Conservation Leader is fifth-generation landowner John Hickey.

John's rolling 150-acre farm near Prior Lake has a combination of tillable land, native prairie, wetland, and woodland areas. Since 2007, he has completed numerous conservation projects, including native grass buffers, critical area plantings, prairie restoration, and wetland restoration. Just this year, John worked with Alyssa Alness, Scott SWCD Resource Conservation Technician, to complete a 24-acre prairie restoration on land that was previously being cropped. The combination of all of John's conservation efforts has had a positive impact on soil health, and has kept the soil from eroding into local waterbodies.

John is a firm believer that nature is reactive to even the smallest amount of help from people and that it can leverage our efforts a thousand fold. He was honored for his conservation efforts at the Scott SWCD annual awards luncheon on August 16. In addition to being recognized locally, John will also be representing Scott County as its nomination for the State Outstanding Conservationist award, which will announced in December at the Minnesota Association of Soil and Water Conservation District annual conference.

The Scott SWCD helps landowners throughout Scott County with conservation practices like John Hickey's projects. If you are interested in learning more about ways you can protect soil, water, and wildlife resources, call the Scott SWCD at (952) 492-5425 or visit scottswcd.org.

Alyssa Alness (at left), Resource Conservation Technician with the Scott SWCD, congratulates 2016 Conservation Leader John Hickey of Prior Lake.

Scott SWCD Board Chair, Doug Schoenecker, presents John Bisek and family with a plaque and gift-certificate for their contributions to Outdoor Education Day.

Bisek family honored as Outdoor Education Day hosts

In 1985, the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) in Jordan began hosting Outdoor Education Day for 5th graders to learn about conservation and the environment. John Bisek was on the SWCD Board of Supervisors at that time, and offered the use of his woods for the educational event. The event was a success, and continued to be held in his family's woods for the next 30 years.

Generations of students – over 30,000 in total – have been inspired to explore the environment in the Bisek family woods. The needs of the event have evolved over the past 30 years; in order to accommodate the 1,200 students that attended this year, the event was held at Cedar Lake Farm Park.

Even though Outdoor Education Day is no longer held in the Bisek family woods, it would not have been able to grow into the great event that it has become without the generous use of the family's property. The Scott SWCD honored the Bisek family at their annual awards luncheon on Aug. 16, awarding them a plaque commemorating their contribution as well as a gift certificate for the Scott SWCD's equipment rental program. The Scott Soil and Water Conservation District and countless students are grateful for the past use of the Bisek family woods!

SCOTT - CARVER
PROJECT COMMUNITY CONNECT

Project Community Connect served 436 people in 2016

Free health care, legal, employment services offered

The Scott-Carver Project Community Connect (PCC) is an annual event designed to provide as many direct services as possible at one location to county residents who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. This year's seventh annual PCC event was held on Tuesday, September 13, in the Canterbury Park Expo Center.

The local event is based on the national Project Homeless Connect model used to minimize bureaucratic red tape to connect those in need with community services. Health care services, employment assistance, education resources, legal assistance, veteran services, housing information, free haircuts, ID cards, birth certificates, and other types of assistance and access to a wide variety of community resources were offered at this year's PCC.

The local Project Connect was developed in response to the Heading Home Scott-Carver "Plan to End Homelessness" approved by the Carver County Board and the Scott County Board in 2010. It reinforces the plan's goal of raising awareness by engaging the community in efforts to address the challenges of poverty and homelessness in the two counties.

This year, with the help of Scott and Carver County libraries and the government centers (which served as drop off sites), we were available we were able to collect over 800 personal care products to be distributed to those in need. This year's PCC event helped 436 people who came to the event to connect with services provided by more than 80 community agencies; with the help of 115 community volunteers, this event continues to help neighbors in need with a hope to end homelessness in Scott and Carver Counties.

Canterbury Park again hosted Project Community Connect. Over 80 community agencies and 115 community volunteers provided services to 436 people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

Students created water bracelets at the water station during the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District's Outdoor Education Day .

Conservation taught outdoors

Over 1,200 fifth grade students got their hands dirty and minds stretched during Outdoor Education Day, put on by the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District Sept. 20 - 24. This is the 31st year of the event, but the first time it was held at Cedar Lake Farm Park. Students walked through the park, stopping to learn at six different stations including: water, wildlife, forestry, pond, plants, and soils. At the end of the day, students enjoyed a CLIMB Theater production about recycling. A highlight for students was the hands-on learning, whether that was searching for aquatic macroinvertebrates at the pond station or counting tree rings while learning about forestry.

Scott SWCD recognized for 75 years of service

The Scott Soil and Water Conservation District was recently recognized for bringing conservation to the residents and lands of Scott County for 75 years.

Mary Peterson of the Minnesota Board of Soil and Water Resources presented a plaque to the Scott SWCD at their annual awards luncheon on August 16, congratulating the SWCD on the impact they have had on conservation locally, regionally, and statewide since 1941.

Mary Peterson, Board Conservationist with the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources, presents the 75th anniversary plaque to Scott SWCD Supervisor Doug Schoenecker.

Kornders chosen as Farm Family of the Year

The Kornder family can trace its roots back eight generations to Schillingsfurt, Germany. After immigrating to America in 1859, George Kornder settled in Bloomington where he truck farmed 33 acres near where the Mall of America now stands. The construction of Metropolitan Stadium and other development forced the Kornder family to move to their present day farming site.

The 160 acre Kornder family farm is located just outside Belle Plaine in Scott County. Ted's zinnia and sunflower plantings provide a beautiful landscape and smiles to travelers along highway 169.

Today, Ted partners with his son, Tony, and together the family raises world-class pumpkins for area orchards and garden centers, and the farm is also home to a U-pick pumpkin patch. The Kornders also raise beef cattle for direct marketing. The farm's 400 acres produces, corn, soybeans, rye, and pumpkins.

Kornder farms incorporate a high level of land stewardship and conservation practices, including no-till and minimum till (to reduce soil and water erosion), water and irrigation management, and wildlife food plots, along with tree plantings. The Kornders are enrolled in the Minnesota Agricultural Water Quality Certification Program and the FSA Land Stewardship Program. Mary utilizes the Ag in the Classroom Curriculum in her fifth grade classroom at Shakopee schools, and her classroom participates in Outdoor Education Days hosted by the Scott County SWCD.

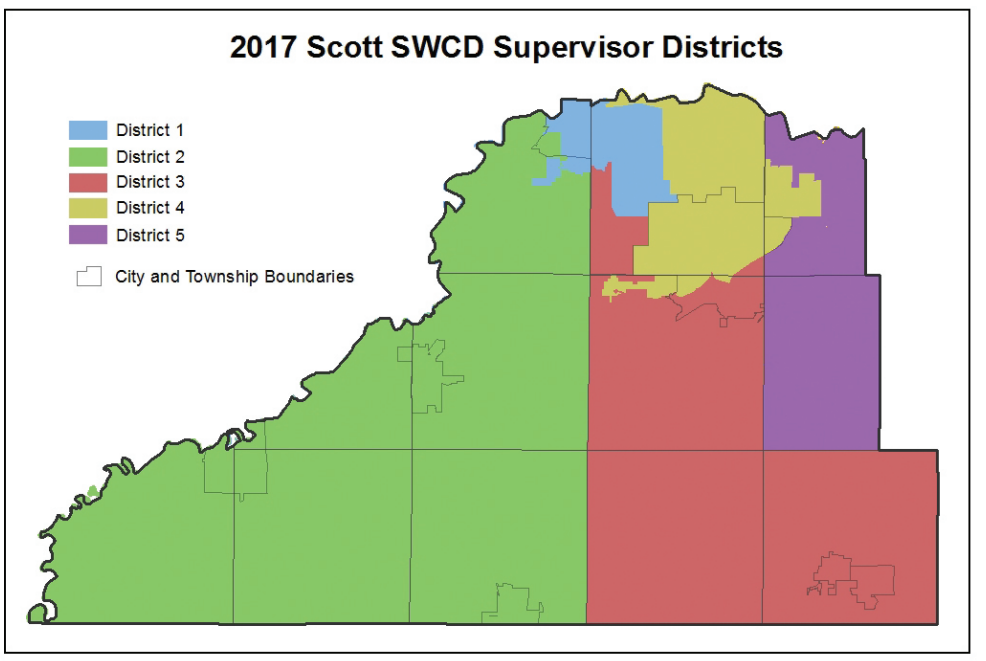
The Kornders are avid supporters of the Belle Plaine FFA chapter, where Ted and Tony both earned the American Degree. In addition, Ted is a 25-plus year member of the St. Lawrence Town Board, and Tony was elected Scott County Farm Bureau President this past fall. The Kornders participate in University of Minnesota Extension educational opportunities, such as Small Grains Plot Tour and Crop Pest Management Short Course.

Ted and Mary Kornder instilled a resilient work ethic and rural values in their four children, Tony, Nick, Katie, and Kristi. Tony is a custom applicator for Genesis, and is head of the farm's sales and marketing, general labor, and maintenance. Tony and his wife, Wendy, are the parents of Megan, Adrianna, and Ruben. Nick Kornder overseas the farm's website and other technology issues, and along with his wife, Annie, is raising two children, Henry and Josie. Daughter Dr. Katie Kornder is a clinical psychologist in West Virginia; daughter Kristi is an orthopedic surgeon assistant.

Congratulations to the Kornder Family, who exemplify what makes Minnesota Agriculture strong. They bring innovation, science, and a solid work ethic to farming. They care greatly about the land and animals, and take great pride in delivering high quality products to consumers across the region.

The annual Farm Family of the Year recipient is chosen locally by a committee of past recipients and Extension Committee members based on nominees' demonstrated commitment to enhancing and supporting agriculture and community involvement.

The Ted and Mary Kordner family of St. Lawrence Township was recognized as Scott County Farm Family of the Year. Pictured are Ted and Mary (at left) and Wendy and Tony Kordner and their children Megan, Adrianna, and Ruben.



A new state law requires Scott County SWCD supervisors to be elected by districts instead of at-large in this November's election.

All Scott SWCD supervisors to be elected by districts in November

This year, candidates in each of the five SWCD supervisor districts will appear on the November 8 general election ballot.

Normally, Scott Soil and Water Conservation District supervisors serve staggered terms and only two or three are up for election in any given year. Recent changes to state statute, however, mandated establishing new district boundaries which triggered the requirement that all supervisors to be up for election. The new law also requires that supervisors be elected by the voters in their district. Previously, SWCD supervisors were elected at-large (e.g., countywide).

SWCDs are non-taxing, special purpose units of government that assist landowners and other local agencies to protect and improve soil, water, and related natural resources. Districts work in both urban and rural settings, and provide a variety of services ranging from education programs to technical and financial assistance.

SWCD supervisors serve four year terms and meet monthly, discussing the business of the SWCD, distributing state grant allocations to landowners, setting conservation priorities, and coordinating conservation efforts with other local units of government and state agencies. SWCD supervisors are not paid a salary; however, they do receive compensation for attending meetings and are reimbursed for expenses.

To learn more about the Scott SWCD, please visit scottswcd.org. And remember to vote for your SWCD supervisor at the November 8 election!

Master Gardeners: Growing more than ever

The Carver-Scott Extension Master Gardeners have been busy increasing awareness of our local services, recruiting a new batch of potential master gardeners, and making it easier to reach us. Over the course of the next year, all new residents will receive information about how we can help their gardening practice as part of a welcome packet they receive when first moving into Scott County. From indoor plants for healthier air to attracting pollinators and reducing runoff, we assist local residents, organizations, schools, and the public sector in making the best use of their resources so that ideas and projects succeed.

In the coming months, we will be interviewing the largest group of potential new volunteers we have ever had -- a sign of growing interest in our organization and expansive work. As we grow, so too does the quality of life in our communities. For upcoming events and to learn more, take a look at our new, redesigned website at carverscottmastergardeners.org.

As part of our efforts to better serve our community, we have launched a new service: *Have garden or general environmental questions? Not sure how to describe the issue?* You can now send your questions with attached photos to gardenquestions@carverscottmastergardeners.org. A local Master Gardener will return your message with a free, unbiased response. From experts to beginners, from backyards to public spaces, we are an over 100-member team of local experts here to help you.

Order tree seedlings now through Scott SWCD

It's already time to start thinking about those trees you want to plant next spring -- the Scott Soil and Water Conservation District's annual tree sale has begun!

This sale is always a great opportunity for residents to add high-quality, low-cost natural plantings to their yard or acreage. There are 32 varieties of trees and shrubs for sale; new trees this year include Pin Cherry, False Indigo, Norway Spruce, Black Walnut, and an Emerald Ash Borer resistant Mountain Ash. Rain barrels, native seed mixes, and tree supplies (mats, spades, and marking flags) are also for sale.

Scott SWCD is again offering the "Backyard Bundle," a great choice for residents who live in the city or on smaller rural lots. It includes five different varieties in one bundle of 25, including Paper Birch, Black Hills Spruce, Highbush Cranberry, Lilac, and Red Osier Dogwood. All other varieties are sold in bundles of 25.

All varieties thrive in Minnesota's various soil types and climate. The sale began this month and continues through April, at which time customers may pick up their pre-paid orders and buy smaller bundles of any remaining seedlings at the Scott County Fairgrounds in Jordan. Put in your order early to ensure the species you want are available.

Call the Scott SWCD office in Jordan at (952) 492-5425 or send an e-mail to scottswcdtrees@gmail.com if you'd like to receive 2017 tree information. You can also complete your entire order online, including secure payment with either Mastercard or VISA. To get started, visit www.scottswcdtrees.com for the order form, photos, and descriptions. You can also send your order to the Scott SWCD Office, 7151 190 St. W, Suite 125, Jordan.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
EXTENSION

4-H stands for head, heart, health, hands

By Mary Schoenbauer
Extension Administrative Specialist

Have you ever wondered what 4-H stands for? There is a meaning behind those four "Hs" … read on!

4-H is a youth development program where adult volunteers provide positive, hands-on, fun, and educational opportunities with youth age 5 to 19. This can take place in many different settings, such as project clubs, community clubs, after school programs, camps, workshops, or events. 4-H provides youth the opportunities to succeed and learn new experiences to help them become productive, successful adults. 4-H has a pledge that represents what each member and leader stands for.

The first "H" in 4-H stands for **Head**: "Head to clearer thinking." One of the key concepts in 4-H is education, allowing youth the opportunity to learn new things through projects and programs. 4-H allows youth to be actively engaged in his or her own learning. In addition, 4-H makes youth participants in, rather than recipients of, the learning process. One of the main goals in 4-H is to have youth develop life skills that help them succeed. Some of these life skills include leadership, responsibility, dedication, communication, and self-confidence.

The second "H" in 4-H stands for **Heart**: "Heart to greater loyalty." In 4-H, youth are taught to be reliable and loyal in their heart, understand what it means to take responsibility for their projects, and the importance of following through. 4-H also gives youth positive relationships with adults and peers through leaders and teens. Caring for others and their projects is also a trait that relates to the "H" for Heart.

The next "H" in 4-H stands for **Hands:** "Hands for larger service." 4-Hers are busy with their hands all year long learning new things and caring for their projects with hands-on experiences. Another way 4-Hers use their hands is by giving back to the community. Part of 4-H is teaching youth the importance of serving the community, country, and world.

The last "H" in 4-H stands for **Health**: "Health to better living." Knowing how to cook, grow food, and appreciating art allows 4-Hers to gain an understanding of how the world works and how to live healthfully. Projects such as photography, food preservation, arts and crafts, sewing, collections, and cooking help young people realize what it takes to have a healthy lifestyle and how to spend their leisure time. 4-H also strives to make sure youth are physically and emotionally safe.

By putting all the "H's" together, we get the 4-H pledge:
I pledge
*My **Head** to clearer thinking*
*My **Heart** to greater loyalty*
*My **Hands** to larger service*
*My **Health** to better living*
For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

If you are interested in learning more about 4-H, how to enroll your child, or how to become a volunteer, contact the Scott County Extension office by calling (952) 492-5410.

Michael Geske claimed reserve champion at the State Fair for his registered Suffolk ewe lamb.

Nora Rosemeier was the State Fair champion in the 4-H Fashion Revue "Clothes You Make" category.

County 4-H youth exhibit their best at 2016 State Fair

Minnesota 4-Hers from 86 counties brought over 2,600 exhibits, delivered over 200 public presentations, and participated in dozens of group learning experiences and public performances at the 2016 Minnesota State Fair.

Throughout the year, 4-H youth select project areas that reflect personal areas of interest and pursue hands-on learning that is both self-directed and guided by adult volunteers. The results of their learning are exhibited at county fairs across the state, and then the best from each county fair is brought to the Minnesota State Fair. Exhibiting project work and delivering public presentations at the State Fair provides youth an opportunity to both showcase their achievements as well as continue the learning through the interactive and group-based conference judging and team experiences.

Highlights this year included 198 youth from 28 counties exhibiting their engineering and problem solving skills by participating in a Rube Goldberg challenge to crush a pop can in multiple and complex steps. This year also saw an intentional increase in the number of 4-H members who experienced the State Fair for the first time, bringing fresh perspectives, energy, and diversity to the 4-H Building.

And of course 2016 continued the strong Minnesota tradition of excellent livestock exhibits, featuring animals that earned a trip to the State Fair by excelling at county fairs across the state. This year also saw the much welcomed return of live birds in the poultry department. The number of livestock exhibited included:

- 617 beef cattle
- 423 dairy animals
- 342 dairy and meat goats
- 241 poultry
- 313 rabbits
- 380 sheep
- 483 swine
- 61 llama and alpaca

As part of the livestock educational component, Minnesota 4-H requires every youth exhibiting an animal to also participate in knowledge tests, skill-a-thons, and personal interviews directly related to the animal species they are exhibiting. Along with interviews, all 4-H youth livestock exhibitors complete the Livestock Quality Assurance and Ethics (LQA&E) Training, which covers bio-security, educating the public on the role of livestock, and caring for their animal's welfare. Other learning opportunities included over 40 exhibits featuring the "Science of Animals," and over 200 youth demonstrating safe and flavorful ways to grill the best of Minnesota meats.

4-H not only produces purple ribbon animals, but more importantly is focused on producing purple ribbon kids. Congratulations to all the youth from Scott County who participated in 4-H at the 2016 Minnesota State Fair!

The 4-H program is funded through a partnership of federal, state, county, and private resources and is part of the University of Minnesota Extension. More Minnesota State Fair results and photos can be found at www.4-H.umn.edu/fair-results.

Carlson selected as new Extension Educator in Ag for Scott, Carver counties

Colleen Carlson has been selected to serve as the Carver and Scott County Extension Educator in Ag Production Systems by the Carver and Scott County Extension Committees.

Carlson will bring a wide range of talents to the community. Colleen grew up on a diversified crop and livestock farm, and currently lives on a small acreage where her family raises poultry, feeder cattle, and pigs. Colleen is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a degree in Ag Education and also holds a degree from the University of Minnesota-Waseca in Ag Chemicals and Soils Technology. Carlson has worked in the Ag chemical industry, in education and for the University of Minnesota Extension Farm Information Line. She most recently served as an interim Extension Educator in Carver and Scott Counties.

Carlson will be engaging in the counties' water planning process, working with the Soil and Water Conservation Districts and municipalities to determine educational needs on the topic of water quality. Carlson will also be participating with water quality-related working groups with the University of Minnesota. At the local level, she will work with individual citizens and groups to determine practices that are effective and economically viable. Carlson believes it is not enough to simply provide information, but that citizens must understand the issues, their options, and what is at stake in order to adopt practices that are in everyone's best interest.

Colleen Carlson

Carlson will be identifying local needs; implementing programs; and providing technical assistance in the area of crop production, livestock, agricultural business management, and horticulture. She looks forward to meeting the people of Carver and Scott Counties, collaborating with local businesses, and moving forward on current County priorities and program planning.

Land rental seminars set for November 21, December 13

Land rental rates are one of the most important financial topics for producers and landowners alike. Learn important skills necessary to successfully manage and negotiate farmland rental arrangements during an upcoming Land Rent Seminar hosted by the University of Minnesota Extension Ag Business Management Extension Educator, David Bau. Awareness of upcoming financial trends related to crops is an important starting point, understanding the cost of production and current commodity prices in relation to current land rental rate trends will be discussed.

The program will cover contract management, including lease types, tools to assist with determining a fair rental rate, and improving negotiation skills. All of these are aimed at making contract negotiations fair and reasonable for producers and landowners.

The meetings are planned for: two afternoons:

Monday, November 21, 1 p.m. – 3 p.m.
Scott County Extension office at Scott County Fairgrounds, Room #1.
7151 - 190th Street West, Jordan, Minnesota

Tuesday, December 13, 1:15 p.m. - 3:15p.m.
Elko New Market Library
110 J. Roberts Way
Elko New Market, Minnesota

For further discussion of land rental rates, sample leases, and decision making tools, contact Colleen Carlson, Extension Educator, Ag Production Systems in Carver and Scott Counties, at traxl042@umn.edu or call (952) 492-5386.

4-H project mornings focus on painting, pies, spinning, weaving

Would you like to learn more about 4-H? Want to explore some of the different project areas youth kindergarten through 5th grade are bringing to the County Fair? Join Scott County 4-H on the second Saturday of each month at the Scott County Extension Office in Jordan to find out more!

Each workshop will be from 9 a.m. to noon and will be led by 4-H staff, screened volunteers, and teen leaders. We will play games, learn about a project area, make a project that can be exhibited at the fair in July, make a healthy snack, and have fun with our friends. For more information or to register, contact Sara Wagner at (952) 492-5338 or dunc0088@umn.edu. Parents are invited to stay, take pictures, and even help, but are also allowed to leave and come back at the end of the workshop.

Saturday, October 8; 9 - noon -- ***Canvas and Treats.*** Do you enjoy painting? Join 4-H and Artifi at the Scott County Extension Office for a morning of canvas painting and treats. We will be learning how to paint a fall harvest picture. Parents are invited as well to stay and paint with their child; just please let us know when you register that you plan on painting as well. **Cost is $20 for 4-H members and $25 for friends.**

Saturday, November 12; 9 - noon -- ***Pie Baking Fun***. Are you getting ready for the holidays? Join us for a morning of cooking fun! We will make and decorate fall sugar cookie cutouts and each participant will make their own pie to take home and bake. We will also be exploring the Food Review, Food Preservation, and Food/Nutrition project areas and talking about possible projects that you can bring to the Fair. **Cost is $10 for 4-H members and $15 for friends.**

Saturday, December 10; 9 - noon -- ***Shearing, Spinning, Loom, and Weaving.*** Do you know how wool from sheep, llamas, and rabbits is turned into a sweater or scarf? Join us for a Saturday morning learning how to spin wool/hair and use a loom to create scarfs and hats. (Price/supplies to be announced.)

2017 dates/themes (subject to change):
Saturday, January 14, 9 - noon – Engineering and Design
Saturday, February 11, 9 - noon -- Sewing
Saturday, March 11, 9 - noon -- Indoor Flower Gardening - Fairy and Rock Gardens
Saturday, April 8, 9 - noon – Share the Fun/ Performing Arts

4-H afterschool program focuses on design, engineering

Do you like to tinker? Join 4-H and explore our Engineer and Design project area with four sessions:

- Aerospace (rockets)
- Electricity and Circuits
- Simple Machines/Rube Goldberg Challenge
- Lego Building

We encourage critical thinking, creativity, innovation, and problem solving in an informal and fun environment. A healthy snack is provided each week.

Red Oak Elementary, Shakopee –
Monday, Nov. 14, Dec. 5 -- 3:50-5:20 p.m.

Sun Path Elementary, Shakopee –
Tuesday, Nov. 15, Dec. 6 -- 3:15-4:45 p.m.

Sweeney Elementary, Shakopee –
Thursday, Nov. 17, Dec. 15 -- 3:50-5:20 pm

Each session costs $44; you can sign up early at www.shakopee.k12.mn.us.

Be prepared for another Minnesota winter

EmergenSCENE

By Captain Scott Haas
Emergency Management and Communications Director

Love it or hate it, winter weather will arrive in Scott County soon. Our winter season brings with it fresh snowfalls, frost on our windows, and ice on our lakes. It also brings its share of hazards.

Winter weather can be as devastating as any summer weather event. In 2013, people in the Worthington area experienced an ice storm that brought with it damage like the area had never seen. Over 2.5 inches of ice followed by 8.5 inches of snow coated an eleven-county area in southwest Minnesota and northern Iowa. In Nobles County, the storm toppled trees and power lines, and left most of residents without power, heat, or cell phone service for over a week. Roads became so impassible that the Red Cross was unable to set up shelters for almost four days.

The Great Ice Storm of 1998 is considered to be the worst ice storm to ever hit North America. The storm caused damage to trees and electrical infrastructure from southern Quebec to New England. Over four million people were without power, many for over a week after over 1,000 electric transmission towers collapsed. The ice storm led to the largest deployment of the Canadian military since the Korean War, and caused 35 deaths, with 25 of those deaths being from hypothermia.

Are you prepared to endure a week of winter in Minnesota with no power, water, or cell phone service and closed grocery stores and gas stations? What can you do right now to prepare for such an event? There are steps you can take that will help you survive a prolonged winter weather disaster. Start with an emergency supply kit. Create a kit that has adequate supplies for you and your loved onesneed to get by for at least 72 hours.

The below items represent the basic supplies one should need to "weather the storm." However, the list is not all-inclusive. If you have special needs or are undergoing medical treatment of any type, it is good to reflect on those conditions and ask yourself if there are items to add to the above list in order to accommodate your unique circumstances.

Each winter, hundreds of Minnesotans find themselves stranded on the roadside. Planning before your travel can save your life. The first and most important step is to be aware of the weather before travelling. If the weather is predicted to be bad, then consider cancelling your plans rather than driving. If you must drive, make sure you are prepared. Make sure your vehicle is in good condition, tell someone the route you will travel, and make a separate emergency kit for your vehicle using the items recommended below.

The emergency kit for your home should include, at a minimum, the following items:

Water (one gallon per person per day for three days)	Non-perishable food for three days	Battery powered or hand crank radio	Flashlight with extra batteries
Whistle	First aid kit	Dust masks	Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation
Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities	Can opener for food	Prescription medications and glasses	Personal hygiene items
Blankets and/or sleeping bags	Pet food and water (if needed)	Changes of clothes	Paper and pencil

Here are some things to have in a winter survival kit for your vehicle:

Small knife and plastic spoons	Red bandanna or cloth (to tie to your car to make you easier to see)	Snacks (raisins, chocolate chips, small candy bars, food bars)	Cell phone charger
Flashlight and spare batteries	Booster cables	Sand or cat litter in a plastic milk carton	Small shovel
Blankets	Boots	Road flares	Hat and gloves

If you are caught in a Minnesota winter without power or stranded with your vehicle, you won't be comfortable. However, if you planned ahead, you stand a much better chance of surviving the crisis. Start preparing today by taking one step towards readiness. Put together an emergency kit.

Outstanding youth leaders sought

Are you looking for ways to volunteer in your County, meet new Scott County teens, teach younger youth how to make positive choices, and learn lifelong leadership skills? Join the Scott County *Youth Teaching Youth* team! The "YTY" program trains 9-12th graders in Jordan, Prior Lake/Savage, Shakopee, and New Prague High Schools to teach elementary age students about a variety of life skills. Some of the requirements of an YTY teen teacher are:

- Complete training for each topic session (out-of-school time)
- Teach three one-hour series class (in-school time, we pick you up in county vehicle and you are excused from school)
- Remain tobacco, alcohol, and drug-free

For more information about how to join call the Extension Office and talk to Sara Wagner at (952) 492-5388 or dunc0088@umn.edu. For those that are not familiar with each program, here are brief descriptions.

Alcohol and Tobacco Decisions -- This program focuses on alcohol, tobacco, and advertising. It presents facts to help youth practice refusal and decision-making skills, teaches about peer pressure, and builds self-esteem. This program is taught to 4th and 5th graders in one-hour lessons once a week for three weeks.

Character Counts -- This program is presented to 2nd and 3rd graders. It focuses on developing positive character using the Six Pillars of Character Development. This is a one-hour lesson that is taught once a week for three weeks.

Building Up: Creating Community in the Classroom -- Building Up was designed for youth in grades 2 and 3 and focuses on defining feelings, sharing positive conflict resolution strategies, and appreciating differences. Building Up supports the following social and emotional learning skills: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making.

Internet Safety -- This new program teaches 5th graders about the dangers of social media, looking at ways to protect ourselves, what to do if we feel unsafe, and preventing online bullying.

SCALE

Scott County Association For Leadership And Efficiency

News you can use...

You've probably heard of it, and maybe even read about it already, but we're going to try and make the Scott County Association for Leadership and Efficiency (a.k.a., SCALE) a little more relevant to you and your neighbors by bringing you SCALE "news you can use" – updates on road projects, local events, community developments and programs, and other things you might want to know – such as how your tax dollars are being put to use. After all, SCALE's mission statement is pretty clear: "To forge new and innovative ways in which government entities can collaborate to provide outstanding service while making the most of limited resources." So watch this page for current and future information from us and our many SCALE partners!

From Prior Lake and the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District:

Community Clean Water event

The City of Prior Lake and the Prior Lake Spring Lake Watershed District are sponsoring their annual fall cleanup event on Sunday, Oct. 30, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sand Point Beach Park in Prior Lake. It might seem counterintuitive, but leaves and other organic matter -- although natural -- can be carried by stormwater into storm drains that release them into our lakes. Once in the lakes, they breakdown and release phosphorus, which in turn feeds algae. Algae growth is a serious threat to water quality, aquatic life, property values, and water recreation. Volunteers at the Spring 2016 Clean Water Cleanup at Sand Point Beach Park collected over 1.5 tons of leaves and woody debris!

Businesses have generously provided door prizes and lunch will be served. Volunteers will also receive a free t-shirt. Volunteers are asked to sign up with the District by calling (952) 447-4166 or sign up through the City of Prior Lake's Facebook page.

Volunteers collected 1.6 tons of leaves and woody debris during the Spring 2016 Clean Water Cleanup at Sand Point Beach Park.

From Shakopee:

Fun fall activities scheduled

The City of Shakopee is gearing up for autumn with several events for all ages!

- Fire Department Open House: Community members are invited to learn more about fire prevention and fire safety at the annual open house from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15 at Fire Station 1, 2700 Vierling Drive E. Tour fire trucks, practice spraying from a fire hose, enjoy refreshments, and more at this *free* event.
- Jack-o-Lantern 5K and Kids Pumpkin Run: Registration is now open for the annual 5K race at 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22 at the Community Center. Dress in costume for this popular run. A kids' race follows. Register online at www.ShakopeeMN.gov/registration.
- Scary Skate & Family Fun Night: Try out your costume before the big night of trick-o-treating at a *free*, family friendly event from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28 at the Community Center.
- Painting with Pumpkins: Grandparents, spend the morning painting pumpkins with your grandkids on Saturday, Oct. 29 at the Youth Building at Lions Parks. Registration required at www.ShakopeeMN.gov/registration.

These "super heroes" participated in last year's Jack-o-Lantern 5K and Kids Pumpkin Run.

Find more fun things to do in the Parks and Recreation brochure at www.ShakopeeMN.gov/brochure.

Franchise fees to fund capital improvement projects

At its Sept. 6 meeting, the City Council approved implementing franchise fees on electric and natural gas utility providers. Beginning in 2017, Minnesota Valley Electric Cooperative, CenterPoint Energy, and Xcel Energy will begin collecting three percent franchise fees on electric and natural gas utility bills.

Per state law, a city may impose a franchise fee on a gas or electric utility for the use of the public right-of-way by adopting an ordinance that establishes fee terms, including structure, collection, schedule, and effective dates. The fees, which can be passed on to customers, are anticipated to generate up to $770,000 per year toward city capital improvement projects. Fee collection is anticipated to begin Jan. 1, 2017. More information is available at www.ShakopeeMN.gov.

Progress continues at Shakopee Community Center, Ice Arena

Construction remains on schedule for improvements to the Shakopee Community Center and Ice Arena. The ice arena is on schedule to open in December for the winter skating season. Once complete, crews will begin transforming the current arena shell into an indoor aquatic park.

Parks and Recreation staff have also moved into their new offices and Community Center visitors are using the new main entrance. With phase three set to wrap up in late September, the city will host a grand opening for its senior lounge from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday, Oct. 28. The community room will also be available for rent soon.

Outside the Community Center, progress continues on the new Shakopee Skate Park. The skate park was relocated to make room for new ice facility. The larger, concrete skate park is on schedule for completion later this fall.For more information about the project, visit www.ShakopeeMN.gov/ccimprovements.

Meteorologist Paul Douglas to highlight 2016 Scott County Senior Expo

Older active adults are invited to register for the 2016 Scott County Senior Expo Friday, Oct. 21 at Shakopee High School. Speakers include Meteorologist and Climate Scholar Paul Douglas as well as entertainer Colleen Wold Hiebeler. The event includes continental breakfast, lunch, vendor exhibits, and door prizes. Registration is $15.

Seniors can register online at http://parksandrec.ShakopeeMN.gov or in person at the Community Center. You can also contact Mark Schneider for a registration form by calling (952) 233-9511

From the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community:

Free things to do this fall

The Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) is offering *free* events and services in October and November:

Yard Waste Recycling: The SMSC Organics Recycling will be offering *free* yard waste recycling to Scott County residents who present a valid ID every Sunday in October, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. Items we take include: grass clippings, leaves, paper products, mulch, and non-treated wood products. We are located at 1905 Mystic Lake Drive South in Shakopee. Learn more at smscorf.com.

A young visitor tried on fireman's attire during last year's Mdewakanton Public Safety Open House. This year's event is set for Oct. 12 from 5 to 8 p.m.

MPS Open House: Mdewakanton Public Safety (MPS) is hosting a Fire Prevention Week Open House Oct. 12, 5 – 8 p.m., at the fire station located at 2330 Sioux Trail NW in Prior Lake. Learn about fire safety tips, equipment, and MPS staff (who serve communities throughout Scott County). There will be a soup cook-off and a special visit from Sparky the Fire Dog. All are welcome.

Dakotah! Sport and Fitness will be hosting the annual Turkey Trot, a 5K and 1/2 mile fun run, on Saturday, Nov. 19.

In other news…

County Road 83 Reconstruction Project: Local access is being maintained throughout construction, so drivers can still reach destinations along the Scott County-owned roadway between County Roads 42 and 82 until the planned completion date of November 2017. Learn more about the project at countyroad-83.com.

Turkey Trot: Registration for the annual Turkey Trot is open! Please visit dakotahsport.com/turkeytrot for more information.

All of these enterprises are owned and operated by your neighbor, the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community. To learn more about us, please visit shakopeedakota.org.

Recycle solid waste and other problem materials

The Scott County Household Hazardous Waste Facility is undergoing an expansion and updating project. The facility is not expected to reopen until late January 2017.

While there is no other nearby location where Scott County residents can dispose of some standard household hazardous wastes (such as oven cleaners, driveway sealers, tar removers, etc.), there are a number of area businesses which will accept -- often for a fee -- a variety of solid waste and other problem materials.

In addition, up to five gallons of unwanted paints, stains, and varnishes are accepted at no cost at all Ace Hardware, Sherwin-Williams, and Hirshfield's stores through the PaintCare program.

APPLIANCES		
Scott County HHW Facility	Spring Lake Twp	www.scottcountymn.gov
Appliance Services *	Shakopee	(952) 445-2916
Buckingham Recycling Center *	Prior Lake	(952) 226-6444
Burnsville Sanitary Landfill	Burnsville	(952) 890-3248
Certified Recycling *	Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
DemCon Landfill	Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
J.R.'s Appliance Disposal *	Inver Grove Hgts	(651) 454-9215
South Metro Resource Recovery	Shakopee	(952) 746-5676

*** HOME PICK-UP SERVICE IS AVAILABLE, CALL FOR DETAILS**

ASPHALT/CONCRETE RECYCLERS		
Commercial Asphalt	12351 Chestnut Blvd, Shakopee	(952) 445-9206
DemCon Landfill	3601 West 130th St. Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
Northwest Asphalt	1451 County Road 18, Shakopee	(952) 445-1003

BATTERIES		
Scott County HHW	588 Country Trail East, Jordan (SpLT)	www.scottcountymn.gov
A-1 Wireless + Batteries	14123 Commerce Ave NE, Prior Lake	(952) 226-3999
BatteriesPlus	15445 Cedar Ave, Apple Valley	(952) 891-2300
Best Buy	8100 Old Carriage Ct, Shakopee	(952) 233-0387
Carlson Ace Hardware	16281 Main Ave SE, Prior Lake	(952) 447-2240
Certified Recycling	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
Lowes	4270 Dean Lakes Blvd, Shakopee	(952) 367-9000
One Stop Pack N Ship	150 E Travelers Trail, Burnsville	(952) 657-5621

BULBS (CFL only)		
Scott County HHW	588 Country Trail East, Jordan (SpLT)	www.scottcountymn.gov
Arrow Ace Hardware	485 Marschall Rd, Shakopee	(952) 233-3724
BatteriesPlus	15445 Cedar Ave, Apple Valley	(952) 891-2300
Certified Recycling	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
Menards	2700 MN-13, Burnsville	(952) 894-4950
Lowes	4270 Dean Lakes Blvd., Shakopee	(952) 367-9000

BULBS (FLOURESCENT TUBES)		
Scott County HHW	588 Country Trail East, Jordan (SpLT)	www.scottcountymn.gov
Arrow Ace Hardware	485 Marschall Rd, Shakopee	(952) 233-3724
BatteriesPlus	15445 Cedar Ave, Apple Valley	(952) 891-2300
Carlson Ace Hardware	16281 Main Ave SE, Prior Lake	(952) 447-2240
Certified Recycling	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448

CELL PHONES		
Scott County HHW	588 Country Trail East, Jordan (SpLT)	www.scottcountymn.gov
BatteriesPlus	15445 Cedar Ave, Apple Valley	(952) 891-2300
Best Buy	8100 Old Carriage Ct, Shakopee	(952) 233-0387
Burnsville Sanitary	2650 West Cliff Road, Burnsville	(952) 890-3248
Carlson Ace Hardware	16281 Main Ave SE, Prior Lake	(952) 447-2240
Certified Recycling	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
Lowes	4270 Dean Lakes Blvd, Shakopee	(952) 367-9000
One Stop Pack N Ship	150 E Travelers Trail, Burnsville	(952) 657-5621

COMPUTERS, TV'S & ELECTRONICS		
Scott County HHW Facility	Spring Lake Twp.	www.scottcountymn.gov
Best Buy- Shakopee	Shakopee	(952) 233-0387
Buckingham Recycling	Prior Lake	(952) 226-6444
Certified Recycling	Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
DemCon Landfill	Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
Electronic Recovery Inc.	Minneapolis	(612) 338-2466
Materials Processing Corp	Eagan	(651) 681-8099
Minnesota Computers for Schools **	Stillwater	(651) 779-2816
NES	Edina	(952) 830-1348
Retrofit Recycling, Inc	Owatonna	(507) 455-1258 (800) 795-1230
Superior Special Services	Bloomington	(952) 948-0626

** Minnesota Computers for Schools is a nonprofit group that provides donated computers to Minnesota schools. Computers must be in working condition and have Pentium processors and color monitors.

FURNITURE		
Burnsville Sanitary	2650 West Cliff Road, Burnsville	(952) 890-3248
Certified Recycling	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
DemCon	3601 West 130th St. Shakopee	(952) 445-5755

GLASS		
Buckingham Recycling	5980 Credit River Road, Prior Lake	(952) 226-6444
DemCon	3601 West 130th St. Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
Super Cycle, Inc	195 Minnehaha Ave E, St. Paul	(651) 224-5081

HOUSEHOLD GARBAGE AND RECYCLING		
Burnsville Sanitary	2650 West Cliff Road, Burnsville	(952) 890-3248
DemCon	3601 West 130th St. Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
Pine Bend Landfill	2495 117th St E, Inver Grove Heights	(651) 457-2778
To contact a local garbage hauler, and arrange a weekly curb-side pickup, visit: www.scottcountymn.gov/709/Solid-Waste-Management		

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE
Scott County HHW Facility (952) 496-8787 (24-hour info line)
588 Country Trail E. (Hwy 282, 1/2 mile west of the intersection of Hwy 13 & 282)

LANDFILL – DEMOLITION AND CONSTRUCTION DEBRIS		
Burnsville Sanitary Landfill	2650 West Cliff Road, Burnsville	(952) 890-3248
DemCon Landfill	3601 West 130th St. Shakopee	(952) 445-5755

LANDFILL – MUNICIPAL SOLID WASTE (MSW)		
Burnsville Landfill	2650 West Cliff Road, Burnsville	(952) 890-3248
Ponderosa Landfill	228 Gooseberry Lane, Mankato	(507) 625-7301
Pine Bend Landfill	2495 117th St E, Inver Grove Heights	(651) 457-2778

MATTRESS AND/OR BOX SPRINGS		
Certified Recycling	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
DemCon	3601 West 130th St. Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
Second Chance Recycling	1179 15th Ave SE, Minneapolis	(612) 332-0664

MEDICATIONS		
301 Fuller St. S	Shakopee*	Police Dept.
4649 Dakota St. SE	Prior Lake*	Police Dept.
118 Central Ave N	New Prague*	City Hall/Police Dept.
210 East First St	Jordan **	City Hall
6000 McColl Dr	Savage*	Police Dept.

Take It To THE BOX
Safe Use • Safe Storage • Safe Disposal
Scott County MEDICATION Safety Program
www.co.scott.mn.us • 952-496-8244

* Disposal boxes are available 24/7
** Disposal boxes are only available M-F 7:00-3:30

Items accepted include:
- Unused/expired prescription medicine
- Over-the-counter medications
- Animal/pet medications
- Liquid medications (must be in leak-proof containers)
- Illegal drugs/ paraphernalia (such as pipes and other objects)

All Drop-offs are anonymous, for more information, Google "Take it To the Box"

OIL FILTERS		
Scott County HHW	588 Country Trail East, Jordan	www.scottcountymn.gov
Certified Recycling	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
O'Reilly Auto Parts	551 Marschall Rd, Shakopee	(952) 403-6054
O'Reilly Auto Parts	4995 160th St SE, Prior Lake	(952) 440-4466
O'Reilly Auto Parts	3930 County Rd 42, Savage	(952) 882-9044
Walmart Tire and Lube Exp.	8101 Old Carriage Ct, Shakopee	(952) 445-8013

Packing Materials		
One Stop Pack N Ship	150 E Travelers Trail, Burnsville (952) 657-5621	Loose fill Styrofoam Peanuts Bubble Pack Packing Peanuts
The UPS Store	1160 Vierling Dr., Shakopee (952) 233-3293	Loose fill Styrofoam Peanuts Packing Peanuts

PLASTIC BAGS (Please See "RECYLING" For More Information on This Subject)		
Cub Foods	14075 Hwy 13 S, Savage	(952) 361-3043
Kohl's	1529 17th Ave E, Shakopee	(952) 233-8733
Lowe's	4270 Dean Lakes Blvd Shakopee	(952) 367-9000
Target	1685 17th Ave E, Shakopee	(952) 440-9770
Target	14333 Hwy 13, Savage	(952) 226-1444
Walmart	8101 Old Carriage Ct, Shakopee	(952) 445-8058

PROPANE CYLINDERS			
Scott County HHW	588 Country Trail East, Jordan (SpLT)	www.scottcountymn.gov	All Sizes
Certified Recycling*	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448	All sizes*

*Fees may apply

SHARPS (NEEDLES)		
Waste Management	Savage	(877) 927-8363 (www.wastemd.com)

SHINGLES		
Atomic Recycling	111 22nd Ave North, Minneapolis	(612) 623-8888
DemCon Landfill	13020 Dem-Con Drive, Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
Lloyd's Construction	7207 W 128th St, Savage	(952) 746-5832

TIRES		
Scott County HHW	588 Country Trail East, Jordan (SpLT)	www.scottcountymn.gov
Buckingham Recycling	5980 Credit River Road, Prior Lake	(952) 226-6444
Burnsville Sanitary	2650 West Cliff Road, Burnsville	(952) 890-3248
Certified Recycling	14305 Ewing Ave, Burnsville	(952) 894-1448
DemCon Landfill	13020 Dem-Con Drive, Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
Liberty Tire	12498 Wyoming Ave, Savage	(952) 894-5280

TREE AND YARD WASTE COMPOSTING		
Mulch Store	14800 Johnson Mem Dr. (Hwy 169), Shakopee	(952) 445-2139
Mulch Store	1030 West Cliff Rd, Burnsville	(952) 736-1915
Mulch Store	16454 Blaine Avenue East, Rosemount	(952) 423-4401
SMSC Compost	1905 Canterbury Rd (Co Rd 83) , Shakopee	(952) 403-7030

WOOD (TREATED)		
Burnsville Landfill	2650 Cliff Road, Burnsville	(952) 894-4807
DemCon Landfill	13020 Dem-Con Drive, Shakopee	(952) 445-5755
Elk River Landfill	22460 Hwy 169, Elk River	(763) 441-2464
Pine Bend Landfill	2495 117th St E, Inver Grove Heights	(651) 457-2778

WOOD (UNTREATED)	
Board Lumber	**Wood Pallets**
Duham Brothers Wood Recycling Lakeville - (952) 469-2427	Duham Brothers Wood Recycling Lakeville - (952) 469-2427
	Menards, Burnsville (952) 894-4950 24/7 drop-off by entrance to lumber yard

* Scott County HHW facility will accept pallets for free if they are in usable shape

For further assistance, please call Scott County Environmental Services' 24-hour Information Line at (952) 496-8787.

Attention property owners: Have you filed your homestead notice?

Whether or not you've filed your homestead notice will affect the amount of property tax you pay in 2017, and it may affect your eligibility for a property tax refund.

Have you purchased or acquired a property this year? Was your property previously classified as non-homestead? You must file a homestead application with Scott County on or before Dec. 15, 2016, if **one of the following** applies:

* You purchased a property in the past year and you, or a qualifying relative, occupy the property for homestead purposes on Dec. 1, 2016; *or*

* You, or a qualifying relative, occupy a property for homestead purpose on Dec. 1, 2016, and the property was previously classified as non-homestead.

A qualifying relative for homestead purposes depends on the type of property. For residential property, a qualifying relative can be a parent, stepparent, child, stepchild, grandparent, grandchild, brother, sister, uncle, aunt, nephew, or niece of the owner. This relationship may be by blood or marriage. For agricultural property, a qualifying relative can be a child, grandchild, parent, or sibling of the owner or spouse of the owner.

Once you have been granted the homestead classification, no further applications are necessary *unless* they are specifically requested by the county assessor.

Applications may be printed from the Scott County website at www.scottcountymn.gov or you can apply in person at the Scott County Customer Service Department.

You must also contact the taxation department by Dec. 15, 2016 if you are the property owner, or a qualifying relative of the property owner, and the use of the property has changed during the past year.

If you should sell, move, or for any reason no longer qualify for the homestead classification, you are required to notify the County within 30 days of the change in homestead status. A form is available in the Taxation Department or on the County's website (www.scottcountymn.gov) to request the homestead be removed from a property for the next assessment. Failure to notify the county assessor within this 30-day period is punishable by recalculation of the tax as non-homestead in addition to a penalty equal to 100 percent of the homestead benefits.

The Scott County Taxation Department is located at 200 Fourth Ave W. in Shakopee. You can also reach them at (952) 496-8115.

CHOOSE NOT TO USE WOULD LIKE TO SAY... THANK YOU!

The success of our annual golf fundraiser is due to the generous contributions from our sponsors, donors, supporters, golfers, and volunteers. The money raised will be used for further educational efforts in Scott County schools and in our community concerning the dangers of illegal drug use. Join us again next year on Friday, September 8, 2017, We appreciate and thank you for your continued support!

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS

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Mdewakanton Sioux Community
Next Chapter Technology

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Scott County Attorney's Office
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Shakopee Lions Club
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Stonebrooke Golf Club
Wolf Motors

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Cabela's
Canterbury Park
Casey's General Store
Chick-fil-A
Chuck and Don's
Cocoa & Fig
Como Zoo
Costco
Cuzzy's
Dairy Queen—Belle Plaine
Dairy Queen—Shakopee
Dangerfield's
Dunn Bros—Savage
Edelweiss Bakery
El Loro
Elko Speedway
Emma Krumbee's
Enails
Firehouse Grille
Fishtale Bar and Grill
Flowers Naturally
Freddy's Frozen Custard and Steakburgers
Guthrie Theater
Hampton Inn
Iris Valley
Janice and Robert Patterson
Jim's Apple Farm
Johan's Sports Bar and Grill
Kowalski's Market
Kwik Trip
Lau's Bakery
Lezlie Vermillion
Louise and Bruce Plagman
Lunds and Byerly's
Mall of America
Mary J. Patterson
McHugh's Public House
Mid-America Festivals
Mill City Museum
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
MN Historical Society Museum
MN Orchestra
MN Vikings
MN Wild
Mr. Pig Stuff
Munkabeans
Mystic Lake Casino Hotel
Natalie Tieben
Neisen's Sports Bar & Grill
Old Log Theater
Pablo's Mexican Restaurant
Papa Murphy's Take N Bake Pizza
Pathways Chiropractic
Pearl Salon
Pekarna's
Persell's Hair Team
Prairie Ponds Winery
Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools
Qdoba
R.F. Moeller Jewelers
Rahr Malting Company
Real Gem Jewelers
Roasted Pear
Ron's Mechanical
Roxana Demers
Ruth Jarcho
Sailer's Greenhouse
Sam's Club
Science Museum of MN
Sever's Corn Maze
Shakopee Bakery
Shakopee Fishing & Firearms
St. Patrick's Tavern
Stems & Vines
Subway—Dean Lakes Blvd—Shakopee
T.J. Hooligans
Taco Loco
Terra Garden Center
The Mustard Seed
The Pointe
The Station
Theresa's Mexican Restaurant
Tony Tieben
Trudy Harper
Turtle's
Valley Sports
Viking Liquor Barrel
Village Liquor
Vivo Kitchen
Von Hanson's Meats
Wampach's Restaurant
Warners Stellian Appliance
Wilds Golf Club
Wine Cellar
Zuppa Cucina

Ron Hocevar, Scott County Attorney, Luke Hennen, Scott County Sheriff, Barbara Marschall, Scott County Commissioner, Kathy Welter, Crime and Drug Prevention Coordinator

SCHS plans bake sale, archaeology workshops

Wish You Were Here: Tourism in Scott County -- Scott County has been a vacation destination for over a century! This exhibit explores the many tourist spots that have attracted visitors over the years, including the resorts at Prior Lake, Mudbaden Sulphur Springs, the Renaissance Festival, Canterbury Park, Mystic Lake, Valleyfair, Elko Speedway, and more! See amazing photos and artifacts, and share your favorite memories of these fun places! Exhibit runs through August 2018.

Youth Archaeology Workshop: Archaeology Today and Archaeology in Scott County, Saturday, Oct. 8, 1: -3 p.m. *For ages 11-16.* Ever wondered what archaeologists do? Here's your chance to find out! Join local archaeologist Dr. Jeremy Nienow for an afternoon of fun, hands-on archaeology activities. This workshop is the first in a series of six workshops that run until May 2017. It is *free* to participate, but registration is required. Register in advance through Shakopee Community Education. *This program is sponsored in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Minnesota Historical Society.*

The Mudbaden Sulphur Springs will be the program topic at the SCHS annual meeting Oct. 13.

Presentation: The History of Mudbaden Sulphur Springs, Thursday, Oct. 13, 6:45 - 7:45 p.m. SCHS Executive Director Kathleen Klehr will share the fascinating history of Mudbaden, the sulphur mud spa that once existed in Jordan. Presentation will be preceded by an open house at 6 p.m. and the SCHS annual meeting for museum members at 6:30 p.m. Light refreshments will be served. *Free!*

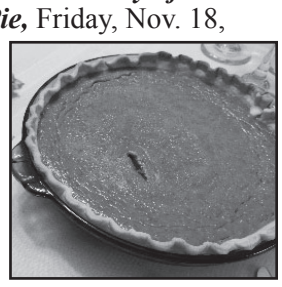
Halloween Kids Kraft, Saturday, Oct. 29, 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. *For ages 2-8.* Enjoy a spooky morning of stories and crafts at the SCHS! We're reading *Inside a House that is Haunted* by Alyssa Satin Capucilli and *Monster Needs a Costume* by Paul Czajak, and making our own funny monster masks to take home. Feel free to wear your Halloween costumes, too! *Free,* but registration required for supplies. To register, email sherrick@scottcountyhistory.org.

All Things Minnesota Book Club – meets at 6:30 p.m., the third Thursday of each month at SCHS.

Scott County Crazy Quilters meet the fourth Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. All types of handcrafters from beginners to masters are welcome. Quilters do not meet in November.

Second Saturday Tour at the SCHS, Saturday, Nov. 12, 1 - 1:45 p.m. Come explore the Scott County Historical Society! We'll tour the 1908 Stans House and take a closer look at some of our favorite items currently on display at the museum. Tours are *free* and all ages are welcome! No registration required; just check in at the front desk before tour start time. Tours start promptly at 1 p.m.

Pie Tasting and The History of Thanksgiving Pie, Friday, Nov. 18, 12 noon – 1 p.m. Join us for coffee and pie at the SCHS, and learn all about the origins of your favorite Thanksgiving pies! Bring your favorite pie recipe to share, and take a new recipe or two home, just in time for the holiday! *Free!*



Thanksgiving Kids Kraft, Saturday, Nov. 19, 10:30 - 11:15 a.m. *For ages 2-8.* We're celebrating Thanksgiving by reading two stories: *The Night Before Thanksgiving* by Natasha Wing and *In November* by Cynthia Rylant, and making a piece of fall leaf art to take home. *Free,* but registration required for supplies. To register, email sherrick@scottcountyhistory.org.

Youth Archaeology Workshop: Artifacts in Scott County and Mapping the World Around Us, Saturday, Nov. 19, 1 – 3 p.m. *For ages 11-16.* Join us for the second in our series of six youth archaeology workshops taught by local archaeologist, Dr. Jeremy Nienow. This month, explore the artifacts found in our own backyard as well as practice the art of mapping. This workshop is *free,* but participants must register in advance through Shakopee Community Education. *This program is sponsored in part with funds provided by the State of Minnesota from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund through the Minnesota Historical Society.*

The Scott County Historical Society will be closed on Friday, Nov. 11 in honor of Veterans Day. The SCHS will also be closed on Nov. 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Save the date: "The River," Scott County Historical Society's newest exhibit, opens on Thursday, Dec. 15, 2016!

Check us out on Facebook at http://www.facebook.com/SCHSHistory and follow us on Twitter @ScottCountyHist. Unless otherwise noted, events take place at SCHS. Fees may be charged for some events. Call 952-445-0378, email info@scottcountyhistory.org, or visit www.scottcountyhistory.org for more information. Scott County Historical Society is located at 235 Fuller St. S., Shakopee.

Historical SCENE

St. Paul House had colorful history

Served as hotel, saloon, stagecoach stop, casino,supper club

By Stephanie Herrick
SCHS Curator of Education

A reader requested that we write an article about the history of the St. Paul House, and we were happy to oblige! (If there is a historical topic you would like to see covered here, feel free to send us an e-mail or give us a call. We love hearing your ideas!)

The St. Paul House was located on the corner of Fuller St. and 2nd Avenue in Shakopee. It was built in 1854 and served many purposes until it burned down on November 20, 1965.

The history of a building often reflects the history of a town, and the St. Paul House is no exception. Originally a hotel and stagecoach stop, it was built in 1854 at the northwest corner of 2nd Avenue and Fuller Street in Shakopee.[1] John Edert was the owner and Joseph Thiem served as the manager.[2] [3] At the time the St. Paul House was built, Shakopee was a new town. Thomas Holmes, the so-called "Father of Shakopee," had arrived just three years earlier, and it would be three more years before the town was incorporated. However, the St. Paul House was not the first hotel in Shakopee. In fact, three other hotels (the Wasson House, the Shakopee House, and the Pennsylvania Hotel) were already in operation by the time the St. Paul House was built.[4]

The number of hotels is indicative of the number of people in need of a place to stay. By 1853, new settlers were arriving in droves. Two treaties had recently opened Scott County and much of southern Minnesota for settlement (as well as removed the Dakota from their ancestral home in Shakopee to a reservation). Settlers came by way of steamboat on the Minnesota River as well as via a stage line that ran from St. Paul to Mankato with a stop in Shakopee.[5] Many of these weary travelers stopped to rest and enjoy the accommodations at the St. Paul House before continuing on to their new homes in Scott County and beyond. A few years later in 1865, the Minnesota Valley Railroad came to Shakopee; the railroad was built along 2nd Avenue, conveniently close to the St. Paul House and likely bringing it even more business.[6]

An ashtray featured the business logo.

Throughout the late 1800s and early 1900s, the St. Paul House continued to gain prominence as a hotel and saloon, serving both travelers and locals. Then in 1919, Prohibition passed, and Shakopee transformed into "Little Chicago" -- a town rife with bootlegging, gambling, and other illegal activities. So much was going on in "Little Chicago" that even the St. Paul and Minneapolis elite came to partake. Though Shakopee's two primary hot spots during this time period were the Millpond Restaurant and The Rock Spring Café, there was certainly fun to be found at the St. Paul House as well. When Scott County Sheriff John Wermerskirchen cracked down on illegal gambling in the early 1940s, the St. Paul House was among the establishments he raided, seizing all of its slot machines.[7]

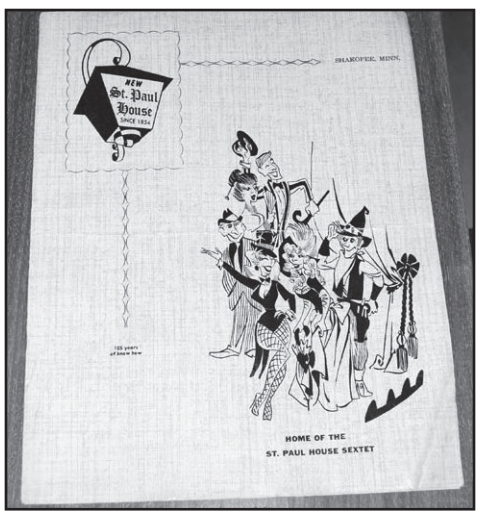
Ownership of the St. Paul House changed hands several times throughout the years. In 1931, it was purchased by Frank Wampach, a descendant of the original owners.[8] He immediately went to work renovating and updating it. In 1934, he placed an ad in the Shakopee newspaper cordially inviting the people of Shakopee to the opening of the St. Paul House bar, which had been "newly furnished and decorated…everything for your comfort and pleasure."[9] Wampach continued his improvements by remodeling the hotel portion of the St. Paul House. The grand reopening of the hotel took place in 1948. A newspaper article published at the time described the accommodations, noting that the hotel featured twelve double sleeping rooms, and that each room included air conditioning, blond oak furniture, a washstand and cabinet, and most impressively, a radio, "a feature usually found in only the more expensive metropolitan hotels".[10] Along with the modernized hotel rooms, the St. Paul House also boasted a bar and lounge, and eight bowling alleys.[11] In 1952, a new lounge opened at the St. Paul House called the Redwood Terrace. It was open six nights a week, and offered patrons food and beverages, dinner music played throughout the dinner hours, and dancing each night except Sunday to the music of LeRoy Lebens and his orchestra. The lounge was decorated with redwood paneling and a "unique stone and copper fireplace."[12]

The year 1954 marked the 100th anniversary of the St. Paul House. Wampach and his business associates, B.B. Klayman and E.B. Rossman, celebrated by opening yet another new space, the Mardi Gras room: "A colorful take-off on New Orleans decoration," and by renaming the establishment the "New St. Paul House." [13] In a nod to the building's history, Wampach also installed a huge, old-fashioned carriage lamp outside of the entrance. From henceforth, the image of the carriage lamp appeared in all of the St. Paul House's advertising, along with the phrase "Meet Me Under the Lamp."[14]

In the 1950s, supper clubs were reaching their peak popularity, and the St. Paul House was proving to be one of the finest in the Midwest. Once again, patrons were flocking from the Twin Cities to Shakopee, but this time they weren't coming to enjoy illegal booze as in the Prohibition era, but rather top-notch dining and music at the St. Paul House. Items listed on a St. Paul House menu from this time period include: Charcoal Broiled U.S. Choice Filet Mignon for $3.95; "Ireland's" 1½ pound Broiled Live Maine Lobster for $5.00; Wisconsin Frog Legs, Saute or Road House Style for $3.95; Chateaubriand Bouquetiere, Sauce Bordelaise for $5.75 (the most expensive item on the menu); as well the chef-recommended Saddle of French Lamb Chops for $4.00; and the house specialty appetizer, Shrimp L'Aiglon for $1.00.[15] The St. Paul House also boasted an extensive liquor menu, featuring a wide variety of cocktails.

In 1961, the St. Paul House received national recognition for its food, when it was recommended as a place to visit in that year's edition of the Duncan Hines travel book *Adventures in Good Eating*.[16] As far as entertainment, starting in 1959, patrons enjoyed music provided by the famed "Singing Sextet," who performed Broadway show tunes.[17]

The St. Paul House came to an abrupt and tragic end in 1965. At 6:29 p.m. on Sunday, November 20, a passing motorist noticed the building was on fire (because it was a Sunday, the building was closed and no one was inside).[18][19] *The Shakopee Valley News* described the harrowing scene that followed — 65 to 70 firemen from Shakopee, Jordan, Chaska, and Carver worked for 16 hours to fight the blaze, with Shakopee firemen called back two more times as flames continued to break out.[20] Five of the firemen from Shakopee also sustained minor injuries.[21]Among the hundreds of onlookers watching the scene was Arthur Ring, who had been born at the St. Paul House 56 years earlier when his parents were managing it, and who just happened to be driving by that night.[22] It was estimated that two and a half million gallons of water were used to fight the fire, but in the end, the St. Paul House couldn't be saved. The fire, which was thought to have started in the restaurant's kitchen, resulted in $325,000 worth of damage. Though then-owner Gerald Wampach (son of Frank Wampach) considered reopening, he ultimately decided against it. So ended one of Shakopee's most beloved establishments and the state's oldest continuously-run inn.[23]For 111 years, the St. Paul House stood on the corner of Second and Fuller, bearing witness as Shakopee grew from a small village of settlers to a thriving city, and itself playing an important role in the community's history, one that will continue to be remembered.



A menu cover

For more information about the St. Paul House, visit the Scott County Historical Society at 235 Fuller Street South, Shakopee (across the street from where the St. Paul House once stood!) or visit us online at www.scottcountyhistory.org.

(Endnotes)

1. Julius A. Coller, II, *The Shakopee Story* (Shakopee, MN: North Star Pictures, Inc., 1960), 106.
2. Ibid, 106.
3. *Minnesota Gazatteer and Business Directory, for 1865* (St. Paul: Groff & Bailey, Publishers, 1865), 203.
4. Coller, *The Shakopee Story*, 29.
5. Ibid, 30.
6. Ibid, 70.
7. "Old as Town of Shakopee," 1965 *(article in St. Paul House file at the Scott County Historical Society)*
8. "Marks 100th Anniversary," *Shakopee Argus-Tribune,* May 13, 1954, 1.
9. "Opening! The St. Paul House Bar" *(advertisement)*, *Shakopee Argus-Tribune*, April 19, 1934, 4.
10. "St. Paul House Opens Hotel," *The Shakopee Valley News*, September 9, 1948, 19.
11. "We are Pleased to Announce the Grand Opening of the St. Paul House Hotel Rooms" *(advertisement)*, *The Shakopee Valley News*, Thursday, September 9, 1948, 20.
12. "St. Paul House Announces Redwood Terrace Opening," *The Shakopee Valley News*, November 6, 1952, 1.
13. "Marks 100th Anniversary," 1.
14. New St. Paul House advertisement, *The Shakopee Valley News*, May 13, 1954, 15.
15. From a St. Paul House menu published between 1959 and 1961; part of the Scott County Historical Society's collection.
16. "St. Paul House Recommended By Duncan Hines," *The Shakopee Valley News,* December 15, 1960.
17. "Only Walls Standing After Blaze Guts New St. Paul House Sunday," *The Shakopee Valley News*, November 25, 1965, 5.
18. Ibid, 1.
19. "Shakopee St. Paul House Destroyed by Fire Sunday," *Jordan Independent*, November 25, 1965, 1.
20. "Only Walls Standing," 1.
21. Ibid, 1.
22. "He Sees His Birthplace Burn," 1965 *(article in St. Paul House file at the Scott County Historical Society)*
23. "Only Walls Standing," 5.

Water quality improvements seen in some local lakes

More good news! In a previous issue, we reported that Lake O'Dowd is getting cleaner and will be delisted from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) list of impaired waters. Now, we're pleased to announce that McMahon (Carl's) Lake is also cleaner than ten years ago and the Scott Watershed Management Organization (SWMO) has asked the MPCA to delist it from the impaired waters list.

In the accompanying graph, notice that as phosphorus and chlorophyll-a levels decrease, water clarity ("secchi disk transparency") increases. Over the last ten years, both phosphorus and chlorophyll-a have steadily decreased.

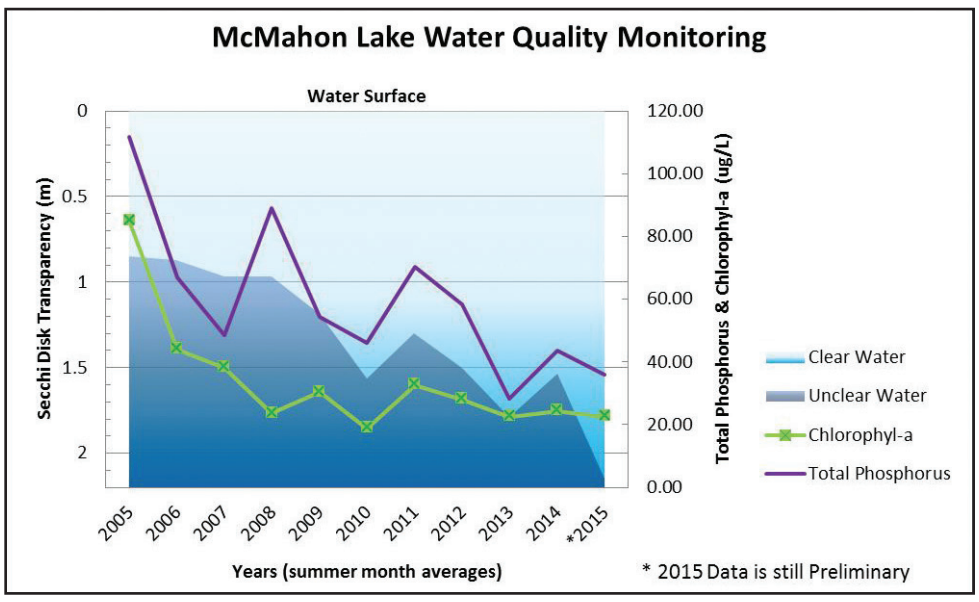
Phosphorus, chlorophyll-a, and water transparency are three parameters used to measure lake water quality. Chlorophyll-a is a plant pigment and is used to measure the amount of algae. When phosphorus levels get too high, chlorophyll levels can also spike because algae and other plant life feed upon phosphorus. Overgrowth of algae and other invasive plants can cause many problems, including disrupting recreational activities like fishing and swimming. Without clean and clear water, plant and animal communities in and around lakes or rivers cannot remain healthy.

So what caused the decline of phosphorus and chlorophyll-a? There are four main factors that could have caused the decreases in both parameters over the last decade. First, fertilizers containing phosphorus were banned from use in the metropolitan area ten years ago. Second, the lake has been treated for Curlyleaf Pondweed, an invasive plant that overgrows and mucks up the water. Third, landowners surrounding the lake participated in water quality monitoring and shoreline improvements. Native shoreline vegetation stabilizes the soil and buffers the lake from pollutants. Finally, most of the area draining to the lake (the watershed) is covered with perennial vegetation, which holds the soil and nutrients in place during rain events.

We can all thank the residents of McMahon (Carl's) Lake for installing several hundred feet of native shoreline and employing other practices that helped clean the water. Maintaining clean water requires everyone's dedication to clean water best practices and monitoring current conditions.

Want to champion clean water in your neighborhood? You can make a huge difference by adopting one simple habit: Clean up your streets and sidewalks. Stormwater is not filtered before it drains into our local lakes and rivers, so grass clippings that used to stay in our yards can get transported from streets or sidewalks into storm drains. From storm drains, grass clippings get into waterbodies and add excess nutrients (like phosphorus).

Visit SWMO's website for more ideas to champion clean water. Contact SWMO or Scott Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for more information about improving water quality.



As phosphorus and chlorophyll-a levels dropped, water quality on McMahon (Carl's) Lake improved. The Scott Watershed Management Organization has requested that it be removed from the impaired waters list.

A public access is located on the west side of McMahon (Carl's) Lake.

Impact of domestic violence extends beyond victims

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. If you've never been a victim, why should you care about domestic violence? How does it affect you? Do you think domestic violence is "just a woman's issue"?

Did you know…

- The cost of domestic violence to our economy exceeds *$8.3 billion* (that's billion with a "b") a year.
- Every three seconds, someone is physically abused by an intimate partner; during one year, this equates to over *10 million men and women.*
- Between 21 and 60 percent of victims lose their jobs because of reasons stemming from abuse.
- Victims lose a total of *eight million days* of paid work each year.

These are just a few of the statistics on domestic violence from the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Domestic violence affects everyone, whether they know it or not. This violence occurs everywhere, in every socioeconomic demographic, every race, every religion, every gender, every sexual orientation… everywhere, even in beautiful, idyllic, rural Scott and Carver Counties.

Southern Valley Alliance for Battered Women is a nonprofit organization serving Scott and Carver Counties. They have assisted 18,478 victims since its founding in 1982. The mission of SVABW is to assist victims of domestic violence. To find out more information about SVABW, find us at www.svabw.org or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn.

Poinsettia Sale

20TH ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Bachman's locally grown, lush poinsettias!

- 8" potted poinsettia with 8 – 10 flowers (2 plants in each pot)
- Cost $25.00
- Choice of red, white or pink poinsettia
- Place your order by November 18, 2016

Southern Valley Alliance for Battered Women

Phone: 952-873-4214 Fax: 952-873-4673

Bachman's is offering us a discounted price on their beautiful poinsettias. An 8" potted poinsettia would cost you $30.00 if purchased at Bachman's. We can offer you the same plant for only $25.00. This saves you $5.00 per plant and delivery is free on orders of five or more plants in Carver and Scott Counties. For free delivery outside of Carver and Scott Counties we require a minimum order of 15 plants.

This fundraiser is not just about LIVE plants…
…it is also about raising funds to save LIVES.

Southern Valley Alliance for Battered Women's

Gifts of Hope

Please Drop Off Gifts By December 12th

~ Wish List ~

Unsure of what to buy? Here are some suggestions.

MOMS

Gift Cards (Target, Wal-Mart, Best Buy, Mall of America, Kohl's, American Eagle Outfitters, restaurants, hair salons, etc.), curling/straightening irons, hair dryers, makeup sets/ cosmetic bags, perfume/ cologne

INFANTS + TODDLERS

Items for kids 0-3 years old, rattles, bath toys, mobiles, musical toys, books, blocks, cars, culturally diverse dolls, dress up costumes, baby doll sets

4 TO 7 YEAR OLDS

Multi-cultural Barbies, DVD's, snow sleds/tubes, board games, building toys (Legos, Tinker Toys, Magnetic Blocks etc.), arts & crafts, movie action figures, Crayola sets

8 TO 20 YEAR OLDS

Electronic games, DVD's, baseball gloves, snow sleds/tubes, board games, Lego sets, remote control cars, jewelry kits, arts & crafts

PRETEEN + TEENS

Snowboards, skateboards, DVD Players, DVD's, electronic games, MP3 Players, jewelry, sports apparel, make up sets/ cosmetic bags, gift cards (Gap, Kohl's, Target, Old Navy), baseball gloves, curling/ straightening irons

Thank you for helping us to make the holidays brighter for those we serve!

Please note: Although we are thankful for any and all donations, we already have an abundance of puzzles, stuffed animals, Candyland and Chutes & Ladders board games.

Questions? Call 952-873-4214

pageborders.org